

Question on Notice

No. 238

Asked on 19 March 2024

MR J MCDONALD ASKED MINISTER FOR TRANSPORT AND MAIN ROADS AND MINISTER FOR DIGITAL SERVICES (HON B MELLISH)—

QUESTION:

Will the Minister make an investment in the 2024-25 financial year for the construction of an overpass at the intersection of the Warrego Highway and Forest-Hill-Fernvale Road at Glenore Grove given two recent fatalities in the Lockyer Valley?

ANSWER:

I thank the Member for Lockyer for the question.

The Miles Government is delivering its eighth record transport and roads infrastructure program in a row, as detailed in *Queensland Transport and Roads Investment Program (QTRIP) 2023–24 to 2026–27*, which outlines \$32.1 billion in investment over the next four years and is estimated to support an average of 25,200 direct jobs over the life of the program. Of this, \$820 million is committed across Department of Transport and Main Roads (TMR's) Darling Downs district, estimated to support an average of 830 direct jobs over the life of the program.

Previously, the Honourable Mark Bailey MP, former Minister for Transport and Main Roads confirmed in reply to Question on Notice (QON) 170 tabled on 10 March 2021, and QON 418 tabled on 21 April 2021, that TMR carried out planning for upgrades along the Warrego Highway between Dinmore and Helidon Spa in 2021. TMR is currently working with the Australian Government to establish priority upgrades along this stretch, which includes the location of the Forest Hill–Fernvale Road intersection at Glenore Grove.

While the two recent fatalities in the Lockyer Valley did not occur at the Warrego Highway and Forest Hill–Fernvale Road intersection, any lives lost on our roads is too many.

As part of QTRIP 2023–24 to 2026–27, the Australian and Queensland governments have jointly funded \$585 million of future upgrades to the Warrego Highway, which is a key freight route forming part of the National Land Transport Network.