

## Question on Notice

No. 272

Asked on 19 March 2024

**MR R KATTER** ASKED MINISTER FOR TRANSPORT AND MAIN ROADS AND MINISTER FOR DIGITAL SERVICES (HON B MELLISH)—

### QUESTION:

With reference to the importance of the Diamantina Development Road to Mount Isa, surrounding communities, and industry—

Will the Minister commit to immediate plans to upgrade the dangerous single lane sections of the road south of Mount Isa?

### ANSWER:

I thank the Member for Traeger for the question.

The Miles Government is delivering its eighth record transport and roads infrastructure program in a row, as detailed in the *Queensland Transport and Roads Investment Program 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, \$445 million is committed across the Department of Transport and Main Roads' (TMR) Central West District, estimated to support an average of 440 direct jobs over the life of the program. Further, \$421 million is committed across TMR's North West District, estimated to support an average of 420 direct jobs over the life of the program.

Beginning in 2024, over \$5 million in safety upgrades will be delivered on the Diamantina Developmental Road between Mount Isa and Dajarra. This package of safety works includes three separate projects that will focus on widening and strengthening a priority two-kilometre section of road to provide additional overtaking opportunities, widening the approaches to Waverley Creek bridge to make the interaction between crossing vehicles safer, and upgrading aged drainage structures to improve reliability and safety on this link.

These projects will be delivered progressively, with construction expected to start mid-2024, and overall completion in early 2025, weather permitting. Simultaneously, TMR is undertaking a planning project which aims to identify other sections of the road that would benefit from further widening, ensuring future readiness as funding becomes available. This planning project is expected to be completed mid-2024.