

Question on Notice

No. 201

Asked on 13 March 2025

MR N DAMETTO ASKED MINISTER FOR TRANSPORT AND MAIN ROADS (HON B MICKELBERG)—

QUESTION:

With reference to the long-term closures of Mount Spec Road in 2019 and again more recently in 2025—

Will the Minister advise if Mount Spec Road will be rebuilt to a higher standard with betterment measures to improve its resilience to future weather events?

ANSWER:

I thank the Member for the question.

The weather event recently experienced in North Queensland was exceptional in terms of scale and severity and caused significant widespread disruption to the state-controlled and local road networks. Mount Spec Road was significantly impacted with landslips and debris causing damage to the road and isolating residents of Paluma.

In response to this event and the damage on Mount Spec Road, my department has been undertaking emergency works to reopen the road. This will enable the road to be used while reconstruction works, including slope stabilisation works, are undertaken. These works are jointly funded by the Australian and Queensland governments through the Disaster Recovery Funding Arrangements.

The Crisafulli Government's priority is to ensure access to the road is restored as quickly and safely as possible, and to that end I have asked my department to prioritise and continue to undertake these urgent repairs.

I acknowledge the hard work and strong advocacy of the Member for Hinchinbrook, most recently in a meeting at Parliament, in ensuring that my department and the Crisafulli Government provide the response and restoration works which residents of Paluma, and Hinchinbrook more broadly, demand and deserve.