




Speech By
Mark Boothman

MEMBER FOR ALBERT

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ADJOURNMENT

Albert Electorate, Traffic Arrangements

 **Mr BOOTHMAN** (Albert—LNP) (2.33 am): Tonight I rise to speak again about a critically important issue affecting thousands of motorists every single day in the southern part of my electorate. On 9 September last year a local business owner went principal petitioner requesting urgent action to alleviate congestion at interchange 57 on the Pacific Motorway. He is one of many residents who have had enough of the congestion issues, the poor line markings—

Mr SPEAKER: Pause the clock. Member for Albert, I ask you to just wait a few moments until the chamber clears. Thank you, members. Member for Albert, I ask you to start again. The clock starts now.

Mr BOOTHMAN: Thank you, Mr Speaker. Tonight I rise to speak again about a critically important issue affecting thousands of motorists every day in the southern parts of the Albert electorate. On 9 September last year a local business owner went principal petitioner to request urgent actions to alleviate congestion at interchange exit 57 on the Pacific Motorway at Oxenford. He is one of many residents who have to put up with daily traffic congestion issues, poor line markings and multiple traffic lights, which create a recipe for disaster.

Motorists entering the interchange from Tamborine-Oxenford Road and wishing to merge left to travel northbound on the M1 Motorway are subjected to extensive queuing and light changes that let only very few cars through because vehicles coming from other directions are already queuing through the intersection. This is not the only problem with this intersection. Vehicles heading north on the Old Pacific Highway at Oxenford wishing to turn right to go through the interchange are also subjected to extensive delays during peak-hour traffic, and the queue actually goes for kilometres. This is also not the only issue with this intersection. Vehicles on Heathwood Drive, which is coming from the north into the intersection, are also suffering an enormous amount of congestion.

This interchange is confusing at best. Motorists travelling from Hope Island to Oxenford regularly become confused with line markings. Vehicles cross over from the far right lane into the middle lane. This is most dangerous for vehicles actually in the middle lane crossing the intersection, as they have to keep an eye out for vehicles crossing from their right into their lane. Just to highlight how important this issue is for my local residents, 1,446 residents signed the petition seeking urgent works on this section of road. This is not the only problem with the M1 and this stretch in the Albert electorate. At exit 41 and exit 45 there is extensive queuing going back on to the highway and cars have literally stopped because they are trying to get off at these interchanges and there are cars driving past at 110 kilometres an hour. They are within centimetres of each other. This is a recipe for disaster.