



Speech By  
**Mark Boothman**


**MEMBER FOR ALBERT**

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**ADJOURNMENT**

**M1**

 **Mr BOOTHMAN** (Albert—LNP) (7.20 pm): Many times in this chamber I have made reference to the urgent need for design works and funding for exit 57 at Oxenford and exit 49 at Pimpama. I spoke on this matter on 17 September 2015, 3 December 2015, 17 February 2016 and twice on 15 June 2016. Furthermore, on 16 February 2016, residents of the region voiced their dismay at the congestion at exit 57 in the form of a petition that was signed by 1,446. A *Gold Coast Bulletin* article dated 23 May 2015 has further highlighted those concerns, stating 'Oxenford-Hope Island connection is Gold Coast's worst road rage hot spot'.

The \$4 million fix discussed in the article has done little to help residents travelling from the western side of the highway, especially for motorists using Tamborine-Oxenford Road. Poor traffic light sequencing, the lack of storage room and a lack of easy access to the M1 northbound exacerbate the situation. Currently, very few vehicles are able to proceed through the interchange from Tamborine-Oxenford Road, which causes extensive delays for motorists. It should be noted that it can cause motorists to queue across the intersection, causing road rage incidents. Furthermore, Tamborine-Oxenford Road is a popular heavy haulage road for local quarries. Those vehicles are regularly unable to proceed through the intersection and, if they do, they certainly get stuck halfway through. Residents are asking for additional works to reduce congestion and lengthen the slip lane to allow easier access to Heathwood Drive and the M1 northbound from Tamborine-Oxenford Road.

The situation at Pimpama is becoming extremely dangerous for motorists trying to exit the M1 at exit 49. People are forced to queue back onto the motorway, whilst other vehicles travelling along the motorway pass them at speeds of 110 kilometres per hour. That is exacerbated by the position of the northbound off ramp, which is at the end of a long sweeping bend in the M1 that limits the line of sight and reduces reaction times for motorists who need to take evasive action. The situation will become only even more precarious as Pimpama continues to grow at a rapid pace.

As the *Gold Coast Bulletin* recently reported, the region is growing at 20 per cent per year. The interchange requires the option for vehicles to bypass the roundabout, the creation of additional dedicated lanes for vehicles proceeding north along Rifle Range Road and a lane for vehicles travelling across the motorway with extensive queuing room. I ask the minister to look into this matter and treat it very seriously, as it is placing people's lives at risk.