

Question on Notice

No. 507

Asked on 11 May 2021

MRS D FRECKLINGTON ASKED MINISTER FOR TRANSPORT AND MAIN ROADS (HON M BAILEY)—

QUESTION:

With reference to Main Road Number 4206, the Memerambi-Gordonbrook Road and in light of the fact that a Queensland Ambulance recently ran off the unsealed section, as well as the ongoing concerns about the deteriorating condition of this road—

Will the Minister advise (a) when funding will be provided to upgrade and seal the 7km unsealed section between Hirst Creek and the Chinchilla-Wondai Road and (b) when funding will be provided to upgrade the sealed section to improve the road shoulders and potholes?

ANSWER:

I thank the Member for Nanango for the question.

The Department of Transport and Main Roads (TMR) inspected the gravel section of the Memerambi-Gordonbrook Road after the single vehicle crash involving an ambulance on 18 March 2021 and after the week of wet weather following the crash.

In addition, Memerambi-Gordonbrook Road is inspected once a month and routine maintenance grading and repairs are scheduled as required. Prior to the crash, the road was inspected on 1 March 2021 at which time Memerambi-Gordonbrook Road was considered to be in a good condition. The road was inspected again on 24 May 2021 following the crash and subsequent wet weather. The unsealed sections were last graded in January 2021 and, based on the road condition at this time, the next grade is scheduled for July 2021.

The *Queensland Transport and Roads Investment Program 2020–21 to 2023–24* represents a record investment in road and transport infrastructure for the fifth year in a row, with \$26.9 billion in works committed over the next four years, supporting an average of approximately 23,600 direct jobs over the life of the program. Of this, \$1.74 billion is committed across TMR's Southern Queensland Region, which is estimated to support an average of 1550 direct jobs over the life of the program. It is relevant to contrast this investment approach with that of the previous LNP Government, which cut \$1.6 billion from roads and transport funding, making the state-wide allocation of funding for competing priorities, like upgrading the Memerambi-Gordonbrook Road, more challenging.

With the pandemic impacting Queensland businesses and communities, significant road upgrades will be delivered to help stimulate the economy as part of *Unite and Recover: Queensland's Economic Recovery Plan*. These upgrades provide immediate economic record benefits, support more jobs and deliver ongoing benefits of vital infrastructure for years to come.