




Speech by

Barbara Stone

MEMBER FOR SPRINGWOOD

Hansard Thursday, 1 December 2011

PACIFIC MOTORWAY, UPGRADE

 **Ms STONE** (Springwood—ALP) (3.29 pm): I rise to inform the House that I support the campaign of the Albert and Logan *Quest* newspaper to have the upgrade of the Pacific Motorway in Logan brought forward and for this major infrastructure project to be regarded as urgent and be considered as part of the Commonwealth Games Gold Coast 2018 infrastructure needs. There is no doubt that there has been a huge amount of work done at the Winnetts Road and Loganlea Road interchange at Daisy Hill. \$420 million has been put into works in that area. In fact, when one drives through one can barely recognise this area because of the large amount of work that has been done and continues to be done.

I supported this section being done first because of safety concerns with cars being banked up on the M1 waiting to enter the Winnetts Road off ramp. Now this section is nearly completed it is time we put the effort into ensuring the funding is there for the next section to commence. I am extremely pleased that \$140 million has been allocated for the Gateway Motorway-Pacific Motorway M1 southbound merge at Eight Mile Plains. There is no doubt that this area is a safety concern. I know the RACQ has raised its concerns about this section of the M1 on many occasions.

I look forward to the work starting in this section. But I do not believe this is enough. If we want to really get a fix to the peak hour congestion we need to look beyond this merge and at further sections of the upgrade. I believe we should be getting on with the job of securing the funding for the section from Underwood Road to Springwood. We need it to be finalised and ready to commence as soon as possible—that is a business case to be prepared for this section and presented in the normal way to the federal government for its consideration and acquisition of the much needed funding for this project.

There is also another section of the upgrade that I believe will also need to be completed before the Commonwealth Games and that is the Loganholme section. There is no doubt that there will be a lot of visitors arriving into the Gold Coast, but there will be those who come into the Brisbane airports and travel on the Gateway Motorway southbound and the Pacific Motorway M1. I want those visitors to have the best first impression they can have of our great state. I want those transport needs looked at not just for these tourists but for the Springwood constituents.

(Time expired)