




Speech By
Mark Boothman

MEMBER FOR THEODORE

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ADJOURNMENT

Theodore Electorate

 **Mr BOOTHMAN** (Theodore—LNP) (6.26 pm): I rise to talk about a couple of issues in the Theodore electorate. Before I do that, I want to welcome some guests here tonight from the Guanaba Rural Fire Brigade. They are lovely people. The Guanaba Rural Fire Brigade and the Coomera Valley Rural Fire Brigade were the first ones to volunteer their time during the bushfire situation in 2019. They are always the first people to get out there and do everything they can to help the community in its time of need. A lot of members have also gone down to New South Wales to help out their colleagues there.

I want to talk about some local issues in the electorate. There has been a petition about the proposed Hope Island train station. The government has allowed for only 179 car-parking spaces at that proposed train station. We are looking for at least 500 parking spaces. At the moment, a lot of local businesses and a local government department use that facility to park their vehicles, so between 50 and 70 parking spaces will be continually used by those vehicles. If we do not build a proper car park here, drivers will be forced to park in local streets. The streets in that area are simply not designed to cater for that. There will be great difficulty bringing an ambulance or a fire truck in there in an emergency. I say to the government: I know that you have done it in other places, and we need a proper 500-space car park here to cater for the local area.

In November 2018 I asked the Minister for Transport and Main Roads, Mark Bailey, about the construction of an auxiliary lane between Helensvale Road and Brisbane Road on the M1. This would prevent a lot of congestion on the M1 motorway because a lot of vehicles get on at Helensvale Road heading south and get off at Brisbane Road, which is the next exit. An auxiliary lane would reduce congestion dramatically. In response to the question the minister stated—

The construction of a southbound, auxiliary lane between Exit 60 at Helensvale Road and Exit 62 at Brisbane Road is included in the managed motorways planning project.

That response was provided almost four years ago. How long do people have to wait? This will make a real difference to traffic in that area. I say to the minister: it is part of the planning. Let's get on with it. It will make a real difference for that section of the M1.