

ROCKHAMPTON – YEPPON ROAD DUPLICATION

Rockhampton – Yeppoon Road Duplication

A Shorten Labor Government will boost jobs and local infrastructure in Central Queensland by investing \$47.5 million in the Rockhampton-Yeppoon Road.

The proposed project is Stage 1 of a three stage improvement project, and will see the construction of a dual carriageway between Limestone Creek and Tanby Road on the Rockhampton – Yeppoon Road.

The Queensland Labor Government has advised that the first stage is a critical project for Rockhampton and Yeppoon. Early estimates are this project will cost \$95 million.

Road projects of similar size in the Rockhampton region suggest the Rockhampton – Yeppoon Road duplication will create around 150 local jobs.

Why are we doing this?

The Rockhampton – Yeppoon Road forms part of Queensland’s key freight network, B-double network and is the major road link to Great Keppel Island.

Increasing travel demand, partly through increasing tourism demand in the region has seen traffic flow increase to more than 12,200 vehicles per day. This includes over 1000 trucks and buses daily (or 8.3 per cent of total traffic).

This increase in economic activity is a good thing for jobs in the region, but it also potentially increases safety risks, and traffic times for local residents.

Data from the Queensland Government indicates there have been at least 20 fatal accidents on both the Rockhampton – Yeppoon Road and neighbouring intersections since 2001.¹

The existing road primarily comprises two-lane, two way single carriageway limiting overtaking opportunities. This project would see a dual carriageway along the entire length of the Rockhampton – Yeppoon Road.

The benefits of this project include:

- Increase economic productivity by reducing costs to industry through better efficiency on the route and lower travel times
- Improve road safety by reducing unsafe overtaking and the associated risks of head-on collisions.
- Increase route capacity to accommodate future growth in traffic volume through increases economic activity in the region.

¹ See: <https://data.qld.gov.au/dataset/crash-data-from-queensland-roads/resource/e88943c0-5968-4972-a15f-38e120d72ec0>

Federal Labor has been listening to the local community, which has been campaigning for many years to see the duplication of the Rockhampton – Yeppoon Road become a reality.