



BATES BULLETIN

OUR MUDGEERABA

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Dear Residents

How time flies! Earlier this year I celebrated my second anniversary as your elected representative. To make sure I continue the fight for our fair share of services in Mudgeeraba, I recently sent out a survey asking for your feedback.

My office was inundated with your responses and I would like to thank you for taking the time to complete it. I am endeavouring to reply to each one however due to the number of responses, it is taking some time.

Not surprisingly the top three issues raised were roads, law and order and government accountability. In fact I used some of your comments in my 'Budget in Reply' speech.

In June the Bligh Government handed down the third Budget in deficit since my election. It is outrageous that Queensland's debt is increasing despite the Government's desperate sale of our assets.

The interest on that debt we Queenslanders face is now **\$595,000** per hour, for every resident. Everywhere I go people are angry about the

high cost of living - electricity prices have spiralled by more than 60% in the past five years, water prices have skyrocketed above 36%, transport fares have doubled, and Queensland is now the most expensive State to own and operate a vehicle.

On top of that we now have a Gillard Federal Labor Government introducing a carbon tax, which Treasurer Andrew Fraser is in support of. How much more can the average family take?

I continue to speak in Parliament on the many issues affecting us, with residents now able to watch speeches from the day's proceedings on demand.

The latest Record of Proceedings can be found on the Queensland Parliament website at www.parliament.qld.gov.au/work-of-assembly/broadcast

Click the camera icon next to a speech and you can view a video replay of my speeches in Parliament.



Numinbah Valley State Primary School

Students and their proud families from one of our

smallest schools, Numinbah Valley State Primary School, have been celebrating their success at the recent Hinterland Cluster Sports Carnival and the Visions of Surfers Paradise Art Awards.

Lewin Turnbull (Yr 5) and Sarah O'Rielley (Yr 6) were both awarded \$200 vouchers for their entries and won a \$2000 prize for their school.

Mudgeeraba Show

Last month I held a stall at the 83rd Mudgeeraba Agricultural Show. It was terrific to see so many local community groups involved and represented. The show is getting bigger and better every year and congratulations go to Show Society President Helen Ripper and her team for organising such a fantastic event.



▲ Ros with members of the Carrara SES

And finally....

I regularly take my office on the road throughout the electorate, and at my monthly stall at the Mudgeeraba Farmers Markets. This is a great opportunity to stop by and have a chat with me if you are unable to visit my office during the week.

As always, I would like to thank residents who take the time to bring local issues to my attention. It is with your help that we will continue to make a difference in our local community.

Yours sincerely

Ros Bates

Ros Bates MP
Member for Mudgeeraba



▲ Lewin Turnbull (Yr 5) and Sarah O'Rielley (Yr 6) winners at the Visions of Surfers Paradise Art Awards.

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ISSUES UPDATE

M1 Upgrade & Interchanges

Pacific Motorway (M1) upgrade six-lane widening Nerang to Worongary: the construction of the \$158M upgrade of the M1 between Exit 73 and Exit 77 is currently on schedule and due for completion in 2012 with new centre lanes now open to traffic. Work also includes permanent safety barriers between the north and southbound lanes.

I will continue to push the Minister for Main Roads to install additional barriers between Exits 77 and 82 where this section has been named the State's third most dangerous stretch of road. Speed cameras remain in force for the duration of the roadworks. Residents from Merrimac will also be pleased to know there will be a footpath constructed for locals to use between Gooding Drive and the Worongary Shopping Village.

Unfortunately this year saw the third consecutive Federal Labor Budget, which did not commit one cent to any further upgrades of the motorway and in fact, the Labor Federal Government has never contributed to this upgrade, and continues to reinvent history and take credit for the \$455M budget allocation by the Coalition in 2007.

Exit 75 at Elysium Road: is now safe from future upgrades of the M1. Residents and business owners fought side by side with me to keep this overpass open during the 2009 election. Future developments on Hinkler Drive at Spiney Bob's old property and at CityLinks Business Estate have ensured the on and off ramps remain in place to cater for future traffic needs.

Sound barriers are to be installed at this location in front of San Fernando Drive. I will continue to put pressure on the Minister for Main Roads to extend the sound barriers for those residents who live at the intersection of Hinkler Drive and Kurilpa Street.

Exit 79 at Robina Town Centre Drive: is now complete although there were numerous issues with line markings, traffic flow, synchronisation and placement of traffic lights that required change. Thank you to all the locals, as it was your persistence in informing me how locals use the intersection which led to these changes.

Residents at The Glades and along Highfield Drive continue to raise the issue of sound barriers along this stretch of the M1, and I will continue to fight with you to

ensure the Minister for Main Roads can justify how the noise levels were above the recommended levels five years ago before the upgrade and removal of vegetation, yet now these barriers are no longer required!

Exit 82 at Robina Parkway: is currently undergoing a much-needed \$60M upgrade, which involves replacing existing roundabouts at the eastern and western ends of the overpass bridge with traffic lights. The on and off ramps will also be realigned and extended with a projected completion date late 2012.

Residents who reside to the northwest side of Exit 82 will also require sound barriers. Main Roads are labouring under the delusion sound barriers already exist at Madeline Street, however the last time I checked it is still a paling fence.



▲ Ros at Robina Parkway (Exit 82)

Exit 84 Varsity Lakes Interchange: at Reedy Creek is now complete albeit five months later than scheduled. Residents on the western side of the M1 have put up with countless changes, many of which have required intervention on my part to ensure our side of the M1 gets a fair go.

Unfortunately the bridge over the M1 will not be duplicated at this stage. Main Roads traffic modelling claim this will not be required for 20 years. Those of us who use this interchange on a daily basis know that claim to be ludicrous.

Planning issues remain a concern for local motorists and your information updates to my office have been greatly appreciated. We have had some wins; others are being reconsidered whilst there are those that unfortunately are not possible at this time such as:

- Reopening the entrance from the Reedy Creek Road fly-over to Woodland Plaza shops is not possible due to limited space.
- The eastern side of the overpass at Varsity Lakes is a planning issue for the Council and Main Roads where the road merges from one lane to two on the Stapley Drive overpass and then back to one lane on Scottsdale Drive and will

require a clearway during peak hour.

- I have requested Main Roads to undertake a road safety audit on Penny Lane for semi-trailers who require a wide turning angle into the petrol station as many are utilising the oncoming lane to negotiate this entrance.
- In addition I have asked Main Roads investigate the possibility of a northbound slipway onto the M1 from Old Coach Road for those residents who wish to travel northbound.

Whilst the majority of these issues are actually in the Burleigh electorate it is you and I who have to put up with the poor planning and lack of community consultation during the construction of the Varsity Interchange.

Exit 87 at Bermuda Street: Main Roads have advised that they are ready to progress detailed planning for the extension of Old Coach Road in Reedy Creek to Oyster Creek Road in Old Burleigh Town. The cost and timing of providing this new connection road depends on the integration of this proposal with the Council.

Old Coach Road - Reedy Creek

Road counts kindly approved by Councillor Daphne McDonald saw a substantial increase in traffic at the Old Coach/Kingsmore roundabout. Over 4000 cars per day utilise this small roundabout from Bonogin, The Aspect, The Observatory and Kingsmore Estate. A further 2000 cars per day approach from the Tallebudgera Valley, which is then further complicated by cars exiting from the M1.

Recently I met with Cr McDonald on-site with traffic engineers to source a solution to this traffic nightmare. There has been a great deal of buck-passing by Main Roads as to which level of government was responsible for what. Kingsmore Boulevard, Old Coach Road, and Gemvale Roads are Council roads and the roundabout and exit from the M1 are the responsibility of Main Roads.



▲ Ros & Cr McDonald at Old Coach Rd

Councillor McDonald agreed line markings needed to be changed to allow a dedicated right and left hand turning lane from Kingsmore Boulevard, which she will progress through Council. In the meantime I intend to put pressure on the Minister for Main Roads to shave off part of this roundabout, at an estimated cost of \$100K to help reduce local traffic congestion now, not years down the track.

Worongary Road

Finally the much-awaited \$2M upgrade of Worongary Road is underway. Stage 1 includes the relocation of a commercial water carrier filling station 360 metres to the north. This will improve sight distance and offer safer access for water trucks together with realignment of the existing footpath on the northern side. In addition the road height will be reduced by 2 metres to change the dangerous road profile and includes the addition of a service road on the western side of Worongary Road for residents to access their properties.

\$100K was also utilised earlier this year for resurfacing a 7.0km stretch between Eyrie Street and Mudgeeraba Road, although it would have been more prudent for Main Roads to realign the road, smooth out the bumps and dips before resurfacing. This is only part of the solution to fix this patchwork quilt of a road. Negotiations continue between Main Roads and the Council to de-mine the road and hand it over to Council to fix once and for all.

Beechmont Road

The Department of Main Roads is proposing to widen a 561-metre section of Beechmont Road between Tarlington Road and Mirani Street, Lower Beechmont. The proposed upgrade will also include the installation of guardrails to improve safety and establishment of edge and centre lines to improve lane separation and visibility.

It is now two years and four months since funding was allocated, yet we continue to wait for the Federal Government to give the green light to remove a stand of macadamia trees before the \$2.5M budgeted upgrade can go ahead.

Two recent near-fatalities on this dangerous road, one of which resulted in a motorist left with spinal injuries has still not convinced the Labor State and Federal Governments this is another fatality waiting to happen.

Springbrook Road

The Department of Main Roads is currently undertaking pavement rehabilitation works on the existing road surface between Forestry Road and Pine Creek Road. You may recall these roadworks were halted abruptly last year due to unfounded concerns regarding

the removal or damage to protected flora species. Residents will breathe a sigh of relief that some progress is now being made on this treacherous stretch of road in Springbrook.

Franklin Drive Upgrade

Planning for the \$22 million duplication of Gold Coast-Springbrook Road, between Somerset Drive and Old Coach Road, has started. Community consultation has yet to take place however the time line for construction is from 2011 to 2014. I have seen plans from ENERGEX, which shows the 4 laning of Franklin Drive to Old Coach Road in Mudgeeraba with the addition of lights at both Old Coach Road and McLachlan Drive including footpaths.

Main Roads have stated the timing for construction will be re-evaluated annually, taking into account the relative priority of competing projects and the level of funds available. Considering this area was the site of an untimely fatality of a Good Samaritan from Mudgeeraba one would hope the Department now considers this upgrade a project of absolute priority.

Boral Quarry

Boral has proposed a 219-hectare site of natural bushland in Reedy Creek adjacent to the Tallebudgera Valley as the site for a future quarry. The Government has deemed this a Project of Significance and is currently in consultation having avoided Council processes. This quarry will require a rigorous Environmental Impact Study.

In December a community meeting was held where over 400 concerned residents attended, the result of which was the formation of the Stop the Gold Coast Quarry group. Recently in Parliament my colleague the Member for Currumbin, Jann Stuckey MP tabled a petition with over 9,200 signatures on behalf of the Mudgeeraba and Currumbin electorates affected by the Government's decision.

Residents in the Mudgeeraba electorate who reside in Reedy Creek and the Tally Valley received a protest postcard calling on the Government to consider alternative sites for this unwanted quarry. If you haven't received yours please call my office on (07) 5596 0482.

**12 HOURS A DAY
6 DAYS A WEEK
FOR 40 YEARS**

A new neighbour that will increase noise and dust, reduce your property price, and increase truck traffic on the already congested Old Coach Road.

**I NEED YOUR HELP
SEND YOUR PROTEST
MESSAGE NOW!**

Quarry plan hits values

Valley residents up in arms over quarry plan

Rock solid protest

Valley residents up in arms over quarry plan

THE GOLD COAST QUARRY

STOP

Ros BATES MP
State Member for Mudgeeraba

Shadow Ministry

Recently I was honoured with a promotion to the Shadow Cabinet as the Opposition Shadow Minister for Government Services, Building Industry and Information and Communication Technology.

One of the most topical and public issues this year has been the Queensland Health payroll saga. The massive cost of fixing the bungled payroll service has now reached an astronomical \$208.7 million of taxpayer's money with more to be spent.

It has been 15 months since Premier Bligh said her Labor government would "work day and night to fix the health payroll mess" yet they still haven't fixed their own colossal mistake. Now nurses are being assaulted yet again with letters of demand to repay monies owed.

How can this Government determine these amounts when payslips are still wrong every fortnight? To add insult to injury no Minister has been held responsible or accountable. The Queensland government spends \$1.3 billion on ICT each year, and there is no real accountability until something goes wrong and even then the responsible Ministers have gotten away with this debacle with no repercussions.



▲ Ros and Nurse Sue Dale discussing the payroll debacle

**FIX IT
OR
WE'LL
QUIT**

Threat of revolt as Queensland Health demands back \$62 million in wages

**Nurse docked thousands
by 'fixed' payroll system**
(Courier Mail 23/06/2011)

(Courier Mail 29/06/2011)

facebook

Search

Queensland Health Payroll Disaster - Fightback

Health(Medical/Pharmaceuticals)

Wall

Queensland Health Payroll Disaster - Fightback

Thanks to under payment of my wages three pays in a row. I now have to chose between eating at work today, filling up my car or buying my heart medication.

Maybe QH will let me pop into the pharmacy and just grab what I need.

Nah.....

I'll not eat at work and just work slower.

Tuesday at 06:19 via iPhone

A facebook page has been set up which gained 2,500 followers in one week.

Community Snapshot



1. D'arcy Doyle Art Awards & GC Sun's Carmichael Hunt
2. Ros at the Dedication ceremony Springbrook cenotaph
3. CR Bob La Castra & Ros Zero tolerance on graffiti
4. Mudgeeraba Pony & Hack Presentations
5. Discussing lack of bus services to Reedy Creek with Scott Emerson, Shadow Minister for Transport
6. Mudgeeraba Show Girls 2011

TOUGH ON CRIME

The Bligh Government has failed to protect our valuable policemen and women. Our thin blue line has recently been stretched to breaking point on the Gold Coast and residents have had enough!

They are sick of watching lenient sentences given to hardened criminals and share the frustration of local police who apprehend these criminals, only to find them back out on the street in a relatively short space of time. The Bligh Government has failed to ensure murderers serve the time their crimes deserve. It is clear the Government's current non-parole periods have failed our local communities.

Under existing laws, life imprisonment does not mean 'natural life'. The current law provides where an offender is serving a single sentence for murder, the prisoner is eligible for parole in 15 years.

Criminals who want to treat our brave police, as punching bags need a clear message that their thuggish behavior will not be tolerated. It is time to modernise and reform our laws so that sentences match community expectations. It is time for a justice system not a legal system.



▲ Discussing policing issues with Snr Sgt Mark Anderson

LINE OF FIRE

Police assaults escalate as Queensland turns into state of violence

EXCLUSIVE (This year Queensland's police officers have been the victims of a series of violent attacks, including a fatal shooting in the state's north-west. The Queensland Police Commission has reported a 10 per cent increase in police assaults over the past 12 months. The Queensland Police Commission has reported a 10 per cent increase in police assaults over the past 12 months. The Queensland Police Commission has reported a 10 per cent increase in police assaults over the past 12 months.

(Courier Mail 28/06/2011)

THE OPPOSITION'S TOUGH ON CRIME INITIATIVE

- ✓ **Juvenile Justice (Sentencing Principles) Amendment Bill 2009**
To strengthen juvenile justice sentencing with a focus on deterrence and sentences that are reflective of the violent crimes being committed by young people.
- ✓ **Criminal Code (Honesty and Integrity in Parliament) Amendment Bill 2009**
To repeal legislation brought in by the Labor Government (to protect Gordon Nuttall) that allows politicians the 'freedom to lie' in Parliament.
- ✓ **Commissions of Inquiry (Corruption, Cronyism and Unethical Behaviour) Amendment Bill 2009**
Introduced because of the Bligh Labor Governments refusal to establish an independent Commission of Inquiry into allegations of corruption, cronyism and unethical behaviour by this Labor Government over the past 11 years.
- ✓ **Disability Services (Criminal History) Amendment Bill 2009**
To provide protection for people with disabilities, ensuring they are not placed in the care of an employed carer with a violent criminal history.
- ✓ **Transport Operations (Road Use Management - Interlocks) Amendment Bill**
To establish a regime of alcohol interlocks, combined with drink-driving education and rehabilitation and inserts a "3 strikes and you're out" rule for drivers caught with high level blood alcohol readings more than three times in five years.
- ✓ **Criminal Code (Serious Assaults on Police and Particular Other Persons) Amendment Bill 2010**
To implement a minimum sentencing standard for certain types of serious assaults on police and public officers, including Ambulance Officers, Fire and Rescue Officers or Rural Fire Officers.
- ✓ **Criminal Code (Filming or Possessing Images of Violence Against Schoolchildren) Amendment Bill 2010**
To provide protection for children who are the targets of cyberbullying through the confiscation of devices used by bullies.
- ✓ **Criminal Proceeds Confiscation (Serious and Organised Crime Unexplained Wealth) Amendment Bill 2010**
To strip organised crime groups of their unexplained wealth and give the State the power to seek an unexplained wealth order against a person.
- ✓ **Child Protection (More Stringent Offender Reporting) Amendment Bill 2009**
To strengthen reporting requirements of sex offenders and also give the police the power to name missing sex offenders on the register, so they can be located.
- ✓ **Electoral (Truth in Advertising) Amendment Bill 2010**
To prevent deliberately false and misleading electoral advertising being distributed to the Queensland community that undermines the fair and honest electoral process.

LABORS SOFT ON CRIME RESPONSE

- ✗ **VOTED AGAINST**
02/09/2009
- ✗ **VOTED AGAINST**
28/10/2009
- ✗ **VOTED AGAINST**
25/11/2009
- ✗ **VOTED AGAINST**
25/02/2010
- ✗ **VOTED AGAINST**
25/03/2010
- ✗ **VOTED AGAINST**
01/09/2010
- ✗ **VOTED AGAINST**
15/09/2010
- ✗ **VOTED AGAINST**
24/11/2010
- ✗ **VOTED AGAINST**
06/04/2011
- ✗ **VOTED AGAINST**
11/05/2011