



RACHEL NOLAN MP

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DANGEROUS CUNNINGHAM HIGHWAY MUST BE UPGRADED

The Cunningham Highway between Ripley and Amberley is dangerous and should be urgently widened to dual carriageway, the Member for Ipswich Rachel Nolan said today.

Ms Nolan's comments follow an accident in which a Willowbank man was killed as the highway narrows from dual carriageway to two-way at Yamanto.

As part of the National Highway, the Cunningham Highway at Yamanto is a federal road.

The state government has been putting forward a recommendation for its upgrade since 2001 but no funds have been provided. These recommendations are not put forward on a prioritised basis.

"The current state of the Cunningham Highway is clearly dangerous," Ms Nolan said.

"Drivers come from Brisbane on a dual carriageway road and then have two changes to two way road, first at Ripley and then again at Yamanto.

"Both of the two way stretches carry high volumes of traffic and the changes are clearly disorienting, particularly at night."

Ms Nolan said the lack of federal funding for the National Highway was appalling.

"While in Ipswich we spend a lot of time talking about the Ipswich Motorway, the Cunningham Highway too is a dangerous, inadequate stretch of road.

"I often hear concerns in the community about the danger of the two lanes sections and also about the absence of noise barriers protecting the Yamanto community.

"There is an urgent need for federal funds to upgrade this stretch of the Cunningham Highway."