



RACHEL NOLAN MP

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WHAT FEDERAL FUNDING FOR CUNNINGHAM HIGHWAY?

Member for Ipswich Rachel Nolan today called on the Federal Government to urgently clarify their commitment to fund the four lane upgrade of the Cunningham Highway from Ripley to Amberley.

A spokeswoman for the Federal Roads Minister Jim Lloyd is quoted in today's QT as saying the federal road funding program Auslink "would include an upgrade of the section of the Cunningham Highway between Ripley and Amberley."

Ms Nolan said that she had carefully studied the Auslink document but could find no evidence of federal commitment to four lane the Cunningham Highway to Ripley to Amberley.

"I certainly hope it's true that the Federal Government have allocated the millions of dollars needed to fix this dangerous road but I suspect that in reality they are either lying or confused," Ms Nolan said.

"This road is clearly dangerous. It carries a high volume of traffic, including trucks, and at two points (at Ripley and at Purga Creek) it drops from a four lane divided highway to a narrow two way road.

"The danger of this stretch was exemplified by Friday's tragic accident as the road narrowed at Purga Creek.

"There is also an ongoing issue of people at Yamanto requiring noise barriers but the Federal Government is providing no funding for them."

Ms Nolan said she had today spoken and written to State Roads Minister, Paul Lucas asking him to seek an assurance from the Federal Government that the funding promised would be allocated.