

*A strong voice for our future*

**BRITTANY LAUGA MP**

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# MEDIA RELEASE

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## Real Bruce plan drives to save Central Queensland lives

Labor's \$1.5 billion safety package for the Bruce Highway will target known crash locations with priority upgrades to save lives, the Labor Member for Keppel Brittany Lauga said today.

She said a re-elected Palaszczuk Labor Government will back a Real Bruce Plan that prioritises safety upgrades and takes trucks off the highway onto a 'Second Bruce' inland freight route to benefit road users around Central Queensland.

"The plan also commits to building on the existing \$12.6 billion jointly-funded Bruce Highway partnership with an additional \$500 million to prioritise upgrades between Gladstone and Mackay.

She said the Real Bruce Plan included a target to reduce fatalities and serious injuries by 60 per cent by 2030.

"We all know the devastating impact road crashes have had on families.

"Labor's focus on upgrading the Bruce highway between Gladstone and Mackay is welcome news for the local communities.

"Labor is delivering for major roads in Central Queensland," Ms Lauga said.

"Rocky locals can see the massive difference we're making through Bruce Highway projects like the Rockhampton Northern Access Upgrade north of the CBD."

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Regional communities will also have a say in how funding is prioritised, with six new representatives from regional Queensland to be added to the Bruce Highway Trust.

Ms Lauga said 33 projects supporting thousands of jobs are already under construction on the Bruce Highway thanks to Labor's record investment on Queensland's national highway.

"Since 2015 we've delivered \$3.7 billion in Bruce upgrades, supporting thousands of regional jobs.

"We're transforming the Bruce Highway through projects like the Rockhampton Northern Access upgrade and we'll start building the massive \$1 billion Rockhampton Ring Road in 2022.

"If re-elected, the Palaszczuk Government will prioritise upgrades between Rockhampton and Gladstone and continue to increase our annual investment in Bruce Highway upgrades to more than \$2 billion by 2023," said Ms Lauga.

**ENDS**

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