



Speech By
Jann Stuckey

MEMBER FOR CURRUMBIN

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PRIVATE MEMBER'S STATEMENT

Currumbin Creek Road, Cyclist Safety; Youth Music Venture

 **Mrs STUCKEY** (Currumbin—LNP) (2.54 pm): I have been voicing my concerns about cyclist safety in the Currumbin electorate for many months now. I am calling on transport and main roads minister Mark Bailey to take cyclist safety more seriously and make road improvements on Currumbin Creek Road, where Commonwealth Games events took place. Ongoing fears from residents about cyclist safety on this dangerous section of road have prompted me to write to the government three times since October last year requesting a number of measures to better protect cyclists and other road users along narrow parts of Currumbin Creek Road. These measures include an education campaign on cyclist safety, additional cyclist warning signage and a dedicated cycle lane. The recent installation of additional cyclist warning signage on the road is a good start, but much more is needed.

Cyclists are dicing with death by riding along sections of Currumbin Creek Road that are so narrow there are no protections for them. They are competing with vehicles for limited space and it is an accident waiting to happen. Cyclists must be warned of the dangers of riding along this road, and all road users should be reminded of their responsibilities when sharing this road. By including this already dangerous section of road in the Commonwealth Games cycling road race events, Goldoc organisers and the Palaszczuk government have encouraged cyclists to use it. The challenge to ride the games course has become a bucket list item for cyclists, but more cyclists on this already unsuitable, compromised road means that motorists are growing increasingly frustrated.

After requests from local residents for the establishment of a bike lane at this location, I asked the minister to consider one that would provide vehicles with safe room to pass and give cyclists peace of mind and a safer route to cycle. Last month Minister Bailey wrote to me saying that it is not possible to add a cycle lane to that section of road without undertaking major widening works. The minister cannot be serious about cyclist safety when on the one hand he promotes cycling but on the other he refuses to provide a safer cycling environment. I am calling on him to lift his game in the name of cycling safety. He was happy to swan around at events during the Commonwealth Games; however, if there had been a cycling accident on this section of road in the lead-up to the games he would have had some explaining to do and I bet we would have seen some action pretty swiftly then.

I just do not want to see anyone get hurt. That is why I am inviting the minister to come and cycle on this section of Currumbin Creek Road and then tell the Currumbin community that a dedicated cycle lane and education campaign are not needed urgently.

I would like to take a moment to commend the community groups in Currumbin, in particular the Youth Music Venture, who were chosen to play during some events at the games. It is a wonderful initiative. I commend the president, Ian Grace, for his drive and enthusiasm. To see our young people, who only recently formed bands, perform in this manner was a joy to behold.