



Bernie Ripoll MP
FEDERAL MEMBER FOR OXLEY

PO Box 555 Goodna Qld 4300 Ph: 3818 3900 Fax: 3818 1181 Email: bernie.ripoll.mp@aph.gov.au Website: www.bripoll.com.au

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D-day for Thompson's bypass fast approaching

With only ten days until Christmas the final route of the Goodna Bypass will be decided upon and put out to tender according to Cameron Thompson, Federal Member for Oxley Bernie Ripoll said.

"We have heard the countless stories about this bypass so its now time for the Member for Blair to put his money where his mouth is.

I, along with the entire Ipswich region eagerly await the news of how Mr Thompson will scrape together the \$2 billion needed to fund his stretch of road and what the tender process will be" Mr Ripoll said.

Cameron Thompson has continuously stated in the press that the third stage of his master plan is due by the end of December complete with the business case for the preferred option and that it will be ready to go to tender.

"This is D-day for Mr Thompson on his claims that the project will go to tender by Christmas.

He is the 'one man road block' delaying the full upgrade of the Ipswich Motorway while he carries on with his wacky schemes" Mr Ripoll said.

"Unlike his pie in the sky bypass which may never be built, the most complex and difficult part of the Ipswich Motorway, the Logan/Gailles Interchange upgrade will begin work in February 2007 with preparation ongoing now. This section of the Ipswich Motorway will cost \$255 million with work being completed in 2 years finally dispelling the myth that it would take 8 years" Mr Ripoll said.

This upgrade of the Logan/Gailles Interchange will alleviate the bottleneck at this point, include a 6 lane upgrade, an increase to 2 lane service roads and fully integrated bike lanes.

Mr Thompson's bypass if built would be the most expensive road in Australia. This projected 8km road is more than double that of the Tugun Bypass and has the potential to blow out even further after final costing.

Media contacts: Bernie Ripoll MP (0418 763 351) or Ryan Ginard (0423 090 501)

Media Release