



Speech By
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MEMBER FOR CONDAMINE

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ADJOURNMENT

Pittsworth, Pedestrian Crossing

 **Mr WEIR** (Condamine—LNP) (6.00 pm): Like many small towns, the main street of Pittsworth is the central business hub where the most activity happens on a daily basis. Like many main streets in regional towns, it is also quite a wide street. In the main street of Pittsworth, Yandilla Street, people can have a meal at one of the local cafes, buy the paper from the newsagency, collect their mail from the post office, do their banking or buy their meat from the butcher. Even the main supermarket is located in this street. However, unlike most small towns, Pittsworth does not have a pedestrian crossing located anywhere on its main street, Yandilla Street. At the last census count in 2016, the population of Pittsworth was 3,294. Most of those people park in Yandilla Street to conduct their business, grab a coffee or do their shopping. On most occasions, at some point they have to cross the street.

Pittsworth is a busy rural town with people from smaller neighbouring communities also utilising the facilities that are available there. Owing to the vehicle activity and the width of the street, it can be hazardous for pedestrians trying to cross from one side of Yandilla Street to the other. Those people include mothers pushing their prams and holding on to small children at the same time, the elderly, schoolchildren and the disabled endeavouring to negotiate this street without the aid of a pedestrian crossing.

Since I was preselected for the electorate of Condamine, I have been advocating and supporting the Pittsworth community in their bid to have a pedestrian crossing constructed on the main thoroughfare, Yandilla Street, which is also the Pittsworth-Felton Road. I have had numerous meetings with the local Transport and Main Roads officers and the Toowoomba Regional Council, on each occasion bringing up the topic of the lack of a pedestrian crossing at Pittsworth.

During the last election campaign, this pedestrian crossing was one of the projects that would have received funding in an LNP government. Recently, I asked the minister a question on notice regarding a date for the construction of a pedestrian crossing. His reply was—

Whilst the Department of Transport and Main Roads have identified the need for a pedestrian crossing on Yandilla Street there are currently no funds available for a construction, however hold that thought, this project is being considered for nomination in the 2019 round of the Annual Targeted Road Safety Program.

Yet in this government's 2018 budget, \$17.3 million will be spent to extend a three-metre wide cycleway from Birdwood Road in Holland Park to Gaza Road in Tarragindi. That cycleway just happens to run between Joe Kelly's electorate of Greenslopes and the electorate of Miller, represented by Mark Bailey, the current Minister for Transport and Main Roads. All Pittsworth wants is one pedestrian crossing. I am sure that would not break the budget and would ensure safety for pedestrians.