

Office of Dale Last MP | Member for Burdekin

Shadow Minister for Police & Corrective Services, Shadow Minister for Fire & Emergency Services, Shadow Minister for Rural & Regional Affairs



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MEDIA RELEASE

Last will take highway battle to Brisbane... and Canberra

With roads having featured strongly in his budget reply speech on Thursday night, Member for Burdekin, Dale Last, has today launched a petition demanding action on the Bruce Highway south of Townsville.

Speaking about the notoriously dangerous section of road, Mr Last vowed to continue his fight to end the carnage and, true to his word, wants support of road users to show both state and federal ministers that they would not take no for an answer.

"I challenged the Transport Minister this week in Parliament to find a more dangerous stretch of road and, although he has fobbed the issue off in the past, one Labor member knows that road all too well," Mr Last said. "As the former Townsville City Councillor for that area, the Member for Mundingburra (Les Walker) knows how dangerous that road is, and I hope he will support my calls to find a solution."

"Minister Bailey (Queensland Transport Minister) has brushed this issue aside as recently as last week, just days after yet another fatality. My message to him and Federal Transport Minister Michael McCormack is '*get ready to hear a lot from me*' because this campaign has just begun."

Mr Last said that, while the federal government traditionally provides the lion's share of funding for highways, it was up to the state government to identify areas of concern but that he would do away with convention to get results.

"I don't care whose door or how many doors I have to knock on," Mr Last said. "But, if I can walk into a minister's office with a long list of voters who want action, I think we may see a few minds changed rather quickly."

"I'm sick of seeing more and more white crosses appearing along that section of road and, if we all stand together, we can get action. Community support is what got the Houghton River Floodplain project happening and we can get this section of road fixed as well if we have enough voices calling for it."

"The Member for Thuringowa says the road is fine and there's no issue but, if the Member for Mundingburra is genuine to the people who supported him on council, he will show his support and sign the petition."

The petition is available at: www.dalelast.com.au or via Mr Last's Facebook page.

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