



CURITS ROAD

The Hon. A. PICCOLO (Light): It is worth putting on the record some of the ongoing issues that this government has failed to address in my electorate and also in nearby electorates. The first one that is a major issue for people, and for me and my colleague the member for Taylor, is Curtis Road.

The congestion on Curtis Road is abysmal, and I notice the member across saying the same thing. It is horrendous, and I understand that the local council has been in discussion with the state government over the transfer of the road to the state government as a way of actually injecting some funds to get this important piece of infrastructure upgraded.

It is important for two reasons. Firstly, it is obviously an important safety issue. Secondly, a lot of people who live in that area travel long distances to

work. Generally speaking, the further you live out from the centre of a city the longer you travel to work every day, and it pains me to see that people who travel a long distance also have to spend a lot of time on the roads because of congestion. Curtis Road needs to be upgraded. It is not unusual during peak times to have people tell me that it takes up to half an hour to get from Main North Road to the expressway.

The cause of the congestion is quite clear. There are two reasons: obviously, growth in the area in Munno Para West and Munno Para in terms of the Playford Alive project has been very successful. At the moment, with the home grants houses are popping up everywhere. That is good news for that region, but it is not good news if you want to use the roads. If you want to get from Munno Para West to Mark Oliphant College to drop off your kids, it is a nightmare.

Apart from that issue, what is really sad about this is that this matter was actually raised in the Budget and Finance Committee in the upper house. The CEO of the department was asked what the government was going to do about this issue, was he aware of it, etc., and he said he was unaware of any issues with Curtis Road or any discussions that have been taking place for the transfer of the road from council to the state government. I find that extraordinary given that discussions have been taking place for some years. It is a major infrastructure issue in the north of Adelaide affecting both the electorate of Taylor and my own electorate.

Curtis Road is bad enough, but there are some quick and simple solutions to assist, not to resolve the problem, and that is the extension of Newton Boulevard from the existing Munno Para development to Munno Para West. This is where we had the old handball trick where the government said it was the council's responsibility, and the council said it was the state government's responsibility.

Clearly, it is a state government development. It is part of the Playford Alive project. Renewal SA are the owners of the land, they are the developers, and clearly they should be making sure that Newton Boulevard is built as soon as possible to assist connecting Munno Para and all the services at Munno Para, including the

schools and shopping centre, to those people who live at Munno Para West.