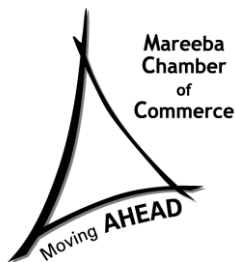


# Mareeba Chamber of Commerce Media Release



12 January 2023

## **Mareeba Chamber seeks funding allocation for range road options analysis**

The Mareeba Chamber of Commerce has called on the Queensland Government to formally request funding from its Federal counterpart for an options analysis and business case on Kuranda Range Road.

The Federal Labor Government committed \$210 million at the last federal election for the range road.

Mareeba Chamber of Commerce President Joe Moro said \$20 million of that commitment could go towards an options analysis and detailed business case.

He said it was disappointing to read that the road would not be added to the National Land Transport Network, a measure that would allow the state to access maintenance funding from the federal government.

“We again bore witness over the festive period of the road’s inefficiencies, with two accidents causing long delays,” Mr Moro said.

“This road is a lifeline for northern Tableland communities and critical for economic growth of the Tablelands, but it continues to be plagued with safety, efficiency and capacity issues.”

Mr Moro said a long-term solution would be expensive, and require significant time and resources.

“We urge the Queensland Government to take the necessary steps to ensure all reasonable alternatives are explored and properly assessed” he said.

Mr Moro said measures like a B-double decoupling site on the Kennedy Highway, between Mareeba and Kuranda, was vital for the freight industry, while the long-term connectivity is resolved.

“This measure alone, while far from the ultimate solution, would deliver much needed relief for the freight industry,” Mr Moro said.

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