



MEDIA RELEASE

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NDRRA ROAD FUNDING NOT A LABOR ACHIEVEMENT

LNP Shadow Minister for Regional Queensland, Andrew Cripps, has blasted Main Roads Minister, Craig Wallace for trying to announce \$300 million worth of NDRRA funding for the Mackay, Whitsunday and Isaacs regions as an achievement of the Bligh Labor Government.

Mr Cripps said he was appalled the Bligh Labor Government had attempted to use the NDRRA funding for flood damaged roads for its own political advantage as the centrepiece of its funding announcements at the regional sitting of state parliament in Mackay.

"The Bligh Labor Government has tried to conscript the recovery effort into its re-election platform, taking credit for centrally funded disaster payments and has recently even started taking credit for the work of others. It's in bad taste and it's dishonest" said Mr Cripps.

"A gas company is funding the delivery of renal dialysis chairs in Gladstone and a Middle Eastern state is funding the delivery of cyclone shelters across North Queensland. But, bold as brass, the government is there taking credit for things it has not delivered" he said.

"Far and away the best effort has been the Bligh Labor Government doing a big song and dance about \$300 million worth of road repairs for the Mackay, Whitsunday and Isaacs region funded under National Disaster Relief and Recovery Arrangements" said Mr Cripps.

"NDRRA is a joint state-Commonwealth funded program designed to share the cost of relief and repair projects in communities following a natural disaster. NDRRA funded programs should not be announced as if they are a government achievement or initiative" he said.

"The announcement of NDRRA funding is a sombre affair. It means there has been a natural disaster. It was galling to watch the Main Roads Minister, Mr Wallace, announce the NDRRA funding as if the Bligh Labor Government could be proud of itself" said Mr Cripps.

"NDRRA road funding is not a Labor achievement. The Bligh Labor Government clings to these half-truths, beat ups and long bows because it has failed dismally to plan and build key infrastructure in regional Queensland and it is embarrassed about that" he said.