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Defence Support

Govt putting motorists at risk by waiting until next Budget to fix dangerous state of our roads

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Waiting until the Territory Budget is handed down to fix the appallingly dangerous state of Territory roads is foolishly flirting with the safety and well being of Territory motorists. CLP Shadow Minister for Transport and Infrastructure Denis Burke said today.

“Territory roads are in the worst condition that many can remember and yesterday's announcement by the Government that road users will have to wait until the Territory Budget is handed down to find out what is going to be done about it is unacceptable,” Mr Burke said.

“The roads need fixing now not in months to come after the Budget is handed down. Surely the Government hasn't run out of money to fix the roads now. Certainly the Minister's 'wait until the next Budget' retort yesterday indicates that.

“The Territory was known for having the best roads in Australia. But now the Government has literally let them go to pot and Territory roads are in the worst condition that many can remember.

“They are a potholed and dangerous disgrace to the travelling public. Long term strategies on road safety are well and good, but what about the dangers on our roads right now.

“While the Minister responsible is content to tell motorists to wait until the Budget their safety is compromised daily by the dangerous road conditions. The Stuart highway is a disgrace.

“I challenge Minister Burns to take a drive along the Arnhem Highway to the Bark Hut or the Stuart Highway even as far as Adelaide River and then try and convince Territorians the Labor Government is serious about maintaining the state of our roads and serious about road safety.

“These are just two examples of roads that are our doormat for the drive tourism market and lifeline for the road transport industry. The state of some of the more remote arterial roads such as the Carpenteria, Plenty and Buntine Highways is simply shocking.”

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