

systems networks. This is the work that you cannot see and I know that I and a number of Councillors had an opportunity to go and have a look at some of this stuff and it is quite significant and quite impressive.

Can I recognise the efforts of our team who've worked so hard with people like Telstra and Urban Utilities and Energex to be able to work on this to keep some of those timeframes we need to be able to deliver this in the time that we expect. They're not always the easiest of partners to work with, so I just wanted to recognise that. In the very near future we will be starting the switch to—

Chair: Are you raising a point of order, Councillor JOHNSTON?

Councillor WINES: —build the retaining wall on Moggill Road, what I call Moggill Road East or Moggill Road North. That will involve, because of the retaining wall construction and the expansion of the lanes through Moggill Road North, the proponent between I suppose you'd call it the old Audi dealership in Rokeby Street, that will require a lane to work with. That will mean that a lot of traffic will be required to use the old service road, which I know a lot of people have seen but many people would have rarely used. We've been working on upgrading that to make sure that it's ready for an increased volume of traffic. We've been working with the transport planning officers inside TPO (Transport Planning and Operations), we've been working with our City Projects Office to make sure that it's well-signed and well-prepared. We've been working with communications groups to make sure that this particular change is well—

Chair: Thank you, Councillor WINES, your time has expired.

Further questions?

Councillor JOHNSTON.

Councillor JOHNSTON, you have the floor.

Question 4

Councillor JOHNSTON: Yes, thank you, Mr Chair. Sorry, there's been some IT problems, I just want to make sure you can hear me.

Chair: We can.

Councillor JOHNSTON: My question is to the LORD MAYOR.

LORD MAYOR, there is grass growing up through Oxley Road in multiple areas. There are major potholes, subsidences and sunken patches and it's flooded twice. It's in a shocking state, so why hasn't Council resurfaced Oxley Road?

Chair: LORD MAYOR.

LORD MAYOR: That's a question that obviously is under consideration in the budget. We have a proud record of doing more resurfacing than any other administration in the city's history. In fact this year we've funded more road resurfacing than any single year in Brisbane's history, this year. So not only have we done our regular ongoing resurfacing, there's also been additional funding put aside to make sure that we deal with roads that have been flooded in the 2022 floods last year. Councillor WINES has previously talked about—

Councillor JOHNSTON: Point of order.

Chair: Point of order to you, Councillor JOHNSTON.

Councillor JOHNSTON: Yes, Mr Chairman, my question is about Oxley Road, it's not about every other road in Brisbane and Council's refused to resurface it as part of flood recovery. So why is grass growing up through Oxley Road and Council taking no action? So the LORD MAYOR might be taking action on other roads, but my question is specifically about Oxley Road.

Chair: Thank you, the LORD MAYOR is being relevant to the question.

LORD MAYOR: Mr Chair, if you listen to the language here, Councillor JOHNSTON has inaccurately said that Council has refused to resurface the road. That is not the case at all. That is simply not the case and is misrepresenting the facts in this matter. We have an ongoing program of identifying the highest priority roads to make sure they are resurfaced and we've provided increasing levels of funding to do this. Councillor WINES has previously highlighted and outlined the process for monitoring—

Councillor interjecting.

Chair: Councillor JOHNSTON, please.

LORD MAYOR: —for monitoring roads that were flooded in last year's floods. There's been extensive surveys done of every road that was flooded to determine how it has fared from the flood damage and what sections require the highest priority resurfacing. That work is ongoing and in some cases, as Councillor WINES has pointed out, the damage is not immediately apparent and comes to the fore even months and months after the flooding occurred. So we're continuing to monitor and prioritise the roads—

Councillor interjecting.

Chair: Councillor JOHNSTON, please stop interjecting.

Councillor interjecting.

Chair: Councillor JOHNSTON, please cease interjecting.

LORD MAYOR: Mr Chair, we know that Councillor JOHNSTON is the chief legal officer of Council, or the want-to-be chief—the CEO of Council and now she's the chief engineer of Council apparently and knows better than our engineers what should be resurfaced and what should not be resurfaced. She knows better than the laser monitoring that is being done across every single road and this is the sort of thing that we see from Councillor JOHNSTON all the time, Mr Chair, where she claims to know better than the professional Council officers who make recommendations on these things. Well I will believe the Council officers' recommendations over Councillor JOHNSTON any day of the week. So we will continue to invest in resurfacing roads, we'll continue to fund resurfacing roads at record levels and we'll continue to do the work that is the highest priority first.

Chair: Further questions?

Councillor MACKAY.

Question 5

Councillor MACKAY: Thanks, Chair. My question is to the Chair of the Environment, Parks and Sustainability Committee, Councillor DAVIS.

Councillor DAVIS, last week the Schrunner Council successfully released more koalas into our natural environment. Can you please update the Chamber on this achievement, including what the Schrunner Council is doing to make Brisbane the koala capital of Australia?

Chair: Thank you.

Councillor DAVIS.

Councillor DAVIS: Thank you, Mr Chair and through you I'd like to thank Councillor MACKAY for the question, because I know that Councillor MACKAY is passionate about the protection of our koala population and has taken a very keen interest in the important work undertaken in collaboration with the University of Queensland (UQ), which of course has a campus in the Walter Taylor Ward. Mr Chair, as part of our mission to make sure that Brisbane is the koala capital of Australia, we're investing in strategies like the Koala Research Partnerships program, where we partner with leading koala experts at the University of Queensland, the University of the Sunshine Coast and Federation University Australia.