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Roads provide lifeline to rural communities

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 There was a minor bushfire north east of Mount Isa on Friday afternoon.

Roads are the lifeline to communities

The recent floods not only have had a devastating impact on our region, but the event also impacted much of our rural and regional road network, which are the lifeline to our communities and industries.

It becomes even more evident when roads are closed at times of floods how important it is that they are fixed up as quickly as possible.

I would like to thank the Department of Main Roads and Transport for their fast action in working on the Flinders/Barkly Highway and regional development roads since the flood waters receded.

The Inland Queensland Roads Action Project identified that nearly 3000 kilometres and more than 300 bridges and culverts require upgrading to fit-for-purpose standards, so this is an excellent opportunity to address safety needs and pinch points through "betterment" to the required standards when carrying out flood repairs.

Regional Queensland outside Greater Brisbane contributes more to the national economy than South Australia, Tasmania and the Northern Territory combined.

The IQ-RAP is an economic development initiative to further develop local industries and attract new investment, which will in turn create jobs.

It is vital we increase the quality and accessibility of the inland road network to secure the economic growth of rural and regional Queensland.

Cr Rick Britton

Chair IQ-RAP Working Group

Mayor of Boulia Shire Council
