



Speech by

PAUL LUCAS MLA

MEMBER FOR LYTTON

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PORT OF BRISBANE MOTORWAY PROJECT

Mr LUCAS (Lytton—ALP) (10.25 a.m.): Today I want to tell the Parliament about a very important announcement last Saturday in my local area by the Premier, the Deputy Prime Minister, the Minister for State Development and the Minister for Transport, that is, the announcement of the \$111m State/federally funded port motorway project. That project, which is funded 60% by the State of Queensland and its various instrumentalities and 40% by the Federal Government, will bring many benefits not only to the State of Queensland but also to Brisbane and to the residents of my bayside electorate.

The port of Brisbane is one of the most dynamic ports in Australia. Twenty million tonnes of produce were imported and exported through that port last year. It has many dynamic and important projects, but the problem was the lack of a road connecting that dynamic, growing area through which we are doing much of the business of this State. The Australia TradeCoast initiative is a very fine initiative of the Beattie Labor Government which has the potential for creating 30,000 jobs in this State. This is part of that initiative.

Also, the residents of my local area are big winners out of the project. At present, travel along Lytton Road to the Gateway Motorway is dangerous. It is a four-lane road, without any separation, on which people who are driving their cars to and from work are mixing with B-doubles and large trucks. That will be a thing of the past under the port road. Also, the time delays of up to 30 minutes at the bottleneck before getting onto the Gateway Motorway bridge in the mornings will be eliminated.

Not only is \$111m being spent in my local area, but 800 direct construction jobs will be created and there will be a duplication of Lytton Road between the bridge at Bulimba Creek and the Gateway Motorway. That is a second bonus. As well, this Minister understands the importance of environmental improvement, and the wetlands at Bulimba Creek will be improved and modified back to their natural state, together with the road being elevated over that part.

I am pleased that the Main Roads Department will be working with the Hemmant community to minimise the impact on them. This is an important Labor initiative, and I want to give full credit to the Transport Minister, Mr Bredhauer, for supporting the project from day one in the Ministry.
