



Speech by

**Hon. STEVE BREDHAUER**

**MEMBER FOR COOK**

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Hansard 10 June 1999

### TRANSPORT INFRASTRUCTURE

**Hon. S. D. BREDHAUER** (Cook—ALP) (Minister for Transport and Minister for Main Roads) (6.13 p.m.): I move the following amendment—

"That all words after the word 'House' be deleted and the following be substituted in lieu thereof—

'commends the Beattie Government and the Departments of Transport and Main Roads for their role in creating jobs, improving job security, supporting growth in the regions and contributing to a better environment for Queenslanders.' "

We have had the honourable members for Gregory and Caloundra coming in here today, and they are squealing because they know what a great job the Beattie Labor Government is doing in delivering transport and main roads infrastructure up and down the length and breadth of this State. It is an economic engine room for this Government in our quest to create jobs, to improve job security, to promote the development of Queensland's regions, to improve quality of life and to improve the environment for people in Queensland.

**Mr Johnson:** Who started all those projects?

**Mr BREDHAUER:** I hear the member for Gregory bleating over there, but the reality is that he is just plain jealous. He is just plain jealous of the fact that I, as a Minister in this Beattie Labor Government—

**Mr JOHNSON:** I rise to a point of order. I am not jealous of any of what the Minister has just said.

**Mr SPEAKER:** Order! There is no point of order.

**Mr JOHNSON:** We started all those projects. It is about time he gave some credit where credit is due.

**Mr SPEAKER:** Order! There is no point of order. The member will resume his seat. Order!

**Mr JOHNSON:** No, it is my turn here, Mr Speaker.

**Mr SPEAKER:** Order! The member for Gregory!

**Mr BREDHAUER:** The member for Gregory had his turn. He got 10 minutes; I only get five.

He is just jealous because he knows that what he could not do in this portfolio I have been out there and delivering. Half of what he was trying to do for two and a half years while he was the Minister I have achieved in 12 months, and I still have two years to go before the next election. Then I will have another term after that and another term after that. I am going to keep on delivering to the people of Queensland.

The member for Gregory talked about the Pacific Motorway project. He wrote to the former Treasurer, the member for Caloundra, and he told her that it was \$120m shy after they rescoped the project, that it was underfunded, as did his then Director-General, Dick Wharton. He wrote and said that they had not funded in the forward estimates the \$120m. We funded it so that the project could be finished.

**Mrs SHELDON:** I rise to a point of order. The coalition Government fully funded that project, including any extra moneys required.

**Mr SPEAKER:** Order! There is no point of order.

**Mrs SHELDON:** I find what the member said offensive and I ask that it be withdrawn.

**Mr SPEAKER:** Order! There is no point of order.

**Mr BREDHAUER:** I withdraw. I wish they would just let me get on with my speech. The member for Gregory was talking before about the transport industry. We have done one of the most important things we could do for the transport industry and for jobs in the transport industry and associated industries in Queensland by screwing the money out of John Anderson and the Federal Government so that we could undertake the upgrade of the Barkly Highway. That will be an important component of our national highway network.

Then we talk about the tilt trains. We are out there getting on with the job. The member for Gregory stood in here again today and complained about the fact that I sent the jobs for the Cairns tilt train project to Maryborough. There are 300 workers up there at Walkers in Maryborough and I make no apology for sending the work to Maryborough. It is an alliance contract between Queensland Rail, EDI, Adtrans and Walkers at Maryborough. We will send those jobs. We will keep them in Queensland.

Then the member for Gregory wanted to talk about track upgrades. I announced \$240m for the track upgrade between Rockhampton and Townsville, which will allow train speeds of up to 100 km/h, which will allow improvement in the rail freight, which will allow us to take trucks off our highways, improve road safety and get more of that freight onto rail. Then there is the Brisbane Airport rail link, which he says is a year behind. The reason why the Brisbane Airport rail link is behind is that the companies were having trouble financing it. In conjunction with my departmental officers, who work very hard, we delivered the project. He talked about it; we delivered it, and it is about to get under way. The same goes for the Brisbane Light Rail Project.

**Mrs SHELDON:** I rise to a point of order. I am quite sure that the Macquarie Bank would take great exception to the fact that they could not find the finance for the airport-city rail link.

**Mr SPEAKER:** Order! There is no point of order.

**Mr BREDHAUER:** I heard the member for Surfers Paradise come in here the other day and talk about the coalition being an ideas factory. I have to tell him that the member for Gregory has actually given me an idea today. He criticised me for having public transport infrastructure out there without the Government's stamp on it. What did I do? I went and got the Government's stamp, and from now on every bit of public transport infrastructure will have "Built by Beattie" stamped on it. We will have our stamp on it. I will get hundreds of the stamps made up, and the road workers out there who work for RTCS will be stamping our stamp on it. We are out there delivering jobs to the community. We are out there delivering regional growth.

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