



Speech by

**Hon. STEVE BREDHAUER**

**MEMBER FOR COOK**

---

Hansard 2 December 1999

**STATE GOVERNMENT PERFORMANCE**

**Hon. S. D. BREDHAUER** (Cook—ALP) (Minister for Transport and Minister for Main Roads) (5.40 p.m.): Fancy the member for Caloundra lecturing this House on the Budget. She is the person who introduced the capital works freeze when the coalition came to Government in 1996. She froze capital works the length and breadth of this State. Queensland businesses were put out of work, workers lost their jobs and the unemployment rate rose during her time in Government. Despite that, she has the hide to come in here and lecture us about the Budget.

The member for Caloundra, in the first Budget that she brought down in this House, introduced seven new taxes and charges. We will never forget that. Seven new taxes and charges were introduced—on TAFE courses, on national parks, on fuel and oils and all the other things.

**Mr Borbidge:** Fuel and oil?

**Mr BREDHAUER:** She introduced taxes on oils and the electorate will never forget it.

**Mrs SHELDON:** I rise to a point of order. Could the member elaborate on the tax on oils? Oils ain't oils?

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

**Mr BREDHAUER:** The member for Caloundra, with the complicity of the member for Gregory who was then the Transport Minister, ripped \$100m out of QR CSO funding. That CSO funding was reduced to such a low level that Queensland Rail's very profitability was put at risk. The member for Caloundra left the \$120m black hole in the Pacific Motorway project, which this Government had to fix up.

**Mr JOHNSON:** I rise to a point of order. That is a fabrication. I find it offensive and I ask for those remarks to be withdrawn.

**Mr BREDHAUER:** I withdraw. The other day, the Premier and I opened the first stage of the Pacific Motorway at Nerang. The people there knew that it was the Labor Government that delivered the Pacific Motorway to the people of the Gold Coast. They knew that we were the ones who got on with the job. Almost 2,000 workers were employed directly on that project because we secured the funding for it after the coalition left a black hole under it. Another 4,000 Queensland workers were associated with that project. I can tell the House that the people of Nerang are eternally grateful to us for picking up the scraps that the coalition left behind on the Gold Coast in places such as the electorates of the member for Surfers Paradise and the others opposite who used to sit on the front bench.

The weekend before last, the Deputy Prime Minister, John Anderson, was in town. I know that the Leader of the Opposition, the member for Surfers Paradise, and the member for Gregory were not present because they were not on the invitation list that was furnished by the Deputy Prime Minister's office. I can tell them that we had a fine time at the signing of the agreement for the Port Road. A sum of \$111m will be provided for the first stage of the Port Road project, which will create 800 jobs. It will enable us to develop the Australia TradeCoast precinct, which the Deputy Premier and Minister for State Development is driving in cooperation with the Brisbane Airport Corporation Limited, the Port of Brisbane Authority and the Brisbane City Council. This Government will oversee the greatest period of development in that area. The port of Brisbane project will create jobs and economic opportunities not just for south-east Queensland but for the entire State. That is a major project.

About two weeks before that, the Premier and I visited Maryborough, because we are interested in regional development. We went to Maryborough to open the new tilt train workshop, which will develop the \$139m diesel tilt trains that will run from Rockhampton to Cairns. Queenslanders will enjoy the same benefits from that service as are being offered by the Brisbane to Rockhampton and Brisbane to Bundaberg tilt train services. We are delivering jobs and projects for Queensland.

Up in Cairns, we delivered the acceleration of funding for the Portsmouth Road project. In the north west, we delivered accelerated funding for the redevelopment of the Barkly Highway. We have been working with the Commonwealth on those important regional development initiatives. The member for Gregory did nothing. When he was the Minister, he sat on his backside and did nothing, even though he could have delivered it.

**Mr JOHNSON:** I rise to a point of order. You pious, sanctimonious hypocrite.

**Mr SPEAKER:** Order!

**Mr JOHNSON:** I find that remark offensive and I ask for it to be withdrawn. John Anderson will be hearing about this one. The Minister has not heard the end of this.

**Mr BREDHAUER:** I withdraw, and I rest my case.

---