



Speech by

JO-ANN MILLER

MEMBER FOR BUNDAMBA

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STATE BUDGET 2003-04

Mrs MILLER (Bundamba—ALP) (10.02 p.m.): I am privileged to be able to represent the people of the Bundamba electorate in this chamber. The people I represent are true blue Queenslanders—people who live on pensions, people who are paying off mortgages, the workers with families, students, children at our schools, the elderly, the sick and the disabled. This budget is a great Labor budget and it is a budget that delivers for the true believers of the Bundamba electorate.

I do not want to focus on the broad economic objectives of this budget that has delivered funding for health, education, families and the disabled. I intend to focus on what I have been able to achieve for the people in Bundamba, suburb by suburb.

Swanbank

Swanbank is on the brink of a new era in industrial development with the CS Energy Industrial Park and the proposed anchor industry, Swanbank Paper Mill Pty Ltd. This proposed paper industry is currently under assessment and, if approved following the most stringent assessment processes, it will bring to the Bundamba electorate over \$1 billion in investments, over 600 construction jobs, over 200 permanent jobs and enormous economic spin-offs for the Ipswich community. I would like to thank John Roach of the Swanbank Paper Mill for his openness with the community on the proposed development and look forward to working with him in the future.

In this budget, \$1.5 million has been allocated to strengthen Swanbank Road to cater for increased heavy traffic in the future. The three kilometre section of Swanbank Road includes widening and granular overlay on the Swanbank Road from Sussex Street to the power station entrance, including concrete bridge widening at Swanbank Services Bridge.

Blackstone

The Blackstone State School will receive an allocation from Education Queensland to repaint the school. It should also be noted that Education Queensland intends to move the former headmaster's house to a block of land around the corner to be sold in order that students can have increased playground facilities. This has been achieved with Education Queensland working with the Ipswich City Council and the Ipswich Historical Society. Due to the lateness of the hour, I seek to incorporate the remainder of my speech in *Hansard*.

Leave granted.

Bundamba

The Bundamba State Secondary College is a great State School. The \$3 million secondary renewal program is nearly completed. It includes: refurbishment programs throughout the school, new paint, better designed classrooms, computer labs, and new audio/visual multi-purpose facilities.

Bundamba State Secondary College has effectively been rebuilt and re-accentuated to education in the new millennium. It is about educating our students for the jobs of the future.

The school is led by Mr Barry Hopf, an inspirational school principal. He has a dedicated teaching staff and a supportive P and C, all doing their best for the education of our young people.

The school arts program at the school includes a drama sequence based on unheard voices in our community and I hope that our drama students will obtain jobs in the arts industry when they leave school.

Bundamba will also be the site of the Capral Plant, as part of the Bremer Industrial Park. It will bring 300 jobs into our community. I will continue to work with residents who have concerns about environmental and health matters and would like to thank the EPA officers who have spent much time explaining technical information to my people.

The Bremer Institute of TAFE headquarters is in Bundamba and they do a great job in training our community for jobs. In this Budget, \$25,000 has been allocated for the Arts Pathway Initiative and \$426,000 to continue the development of information and community technology infrastructure.

This is in addition to their operational budget of tens of millions of dollars. The Bremer TAFE, whilst headquartered in Bundamba, also has campuses in Goodna and Springfield in my electorate. The TAFE is playing a key role in the Education and Training Reforms initiatives and it is great that the electorate of Bundamba is included in the ETRF trials.

Ebbw Vale

Ebbw Vale is a community of hidden treasures, including its great community of interest, the caring of residents towards each other, and its secret garden. After lengthy consultation, Powerlink is constructing high tension towers, but I understand that Powerlink intends to construct some landscaping works and is in negotiations with community organisations to provide further assistance to the community.

The Ebbw Vale/Dinmore Neighbourhood Watch is an excellent example of the community working together for the benefit of its residents.

Dinmore

Dinmore has been part of the Dinmore/Riverview Community Renewal Program which is now in its end phase. The Dinmore State School has been a beneficiary of the community renewal program with the construction of outdoor courts.

The urban renewal program has begun in Dinmore with approximately \$40,000 being spent on each house with new carports, fences, kitchens, laundries etc. being constructed. The Department of Housing tenants are very happy with this program, as are other members of the Dinmore community.

Dinmore State School is also part of the School Arts Program. 33 members of the Year 6 class will explore themes of culture and community in a drama and video project.

Dinmore also is the site of the Australian Meat Holdings plant—the biggest meat processor in the southern hemisphere. The plant employs over 2000 people, including the university week-end shift. AMH assists local community organisations, including Scouts and Ambulance, for which I am grateful.

Riverview:

Riverview has undergone dynamic change over recent years as a result of the urban renewal program which is now finished, and the Dinmore/Riverview Community Renewal Program. Millions of dollars have been pumped into Riverview by the Beattie Labor Government and the results speak for themselves: Riverview is a much happier place to live in.

Recently I officially opened the \$600,000 oval at Riverview State School. This oval is also used by West Moreton Rugby Union Club. This is a great sporting facility for Riverview and it will be well used by local families in future years. The road connecting Riverview to Redbank is also on time and on budget. It is jointly funded by the Beattie Labor Government and ICC and is estimated to cost \$5 million.

Riverview State School is also part of the \$400,000 arts program. Storytelling, traditional Indigenous and Polynesian dance, singing and drama will be a part of the arts program, and will benefit from additional funding for repainting of school buildings.

Redbank

Redbank will have a new ambulance station this financial year. \$650,000 has been allocated for the station. A property has been purchased in Law Street, just up the road from the current cramped station and construction will begin as soon as approvals have been granted.

The residents of Redbank are delighted that the ambos are staying in their community.

A recent meeting of the community has decided to call an AGM in July to reform the Redbank Ambulance Committee and I understand that local businesses, AMH, QR Redbank Workshops and Redbank Plaza Shopping Centre are keen to assist the new committee.

\$13.2 million has been allocated to design, manufacture or upgrade Queensland Rail's City train and coal wagon fleet at the Redbank Workshops. Transport has also allocated a share of \$5.4 million for work on upgrading timber rail bridges with concrete structures.

The Redbank State School is also part of the School Arts program with their contribution being interpretations of the community: who you are—the community elders—the future of Redbank. Mr Alan Tulloch is the artist in residence at the school.

Collingwood Park

The suburb of Collingwood Park is about to boom! The East-West Development, off Goss Drive, has been opened up for sale to the general public, which I am pleased about, and the George Cheick development is about to happen with over 800 blocks of land to be sold. This is all good news for Collingwood Park residents.

The best news however has been the Collingwood Park Sports and Recreation Centre, currently under construction, located opposite Redbank Plaza. It is a monument of our government's commitment to sports and recreation.

Our Labor Government is fully funding this facility and over \$2 million has been committed to the project. I inspected the facility last week and it is a great facility. A further \$100,000 has been allocated and now two outdoor courts will be built. So there will be four courts—two indoor multi-purpose courts, and two external courts. It also includes meeting rooms, and other facilities for the benefit of the community.

Collingwood Park State School will also receive Education Queensland money to repaint the school.

Goodna

Goodna will have a new 25 metre eight-lane swimming pool, leisure pool and club house. The community of Goodna is ecstatic about this news as—one old-timer told me—a pool had been on the agenda since 1967.

Well, after a lot of hard work and lobbying by me, the Minister for Sport has allocated \$565,000 towards the cost of the pool.

Community Renewal funding from the Department of Housing and Ipswich City Council funding will also be used to construct the pool. It is intended that the pool be constructed opposite the Goodna Bowls Club—so it will be a riverside pool. This is subject to soil and other engineering tests which are important in the design work of pools.

The Goodna Cultural and Arts Centre, fully funded by the Beattie Labor Government, is also going strong. This centre is used day and night by seniors groups, dance groups, arts groups and has been a great addition in my electorate. Over \$1.2 million was allocated by our Labor Government to this Centre.

The Goodna State School is also part of the school arts program. About 20 students from years 5-7 are creating outdoor sculptures.

Today I was also privileged to launch the new Goodna website. The website was identified by the community at a Service Integration Project Meeting forum. The SIP project was funded by our Labor Government and the website was set up with \$6,000 contribution. There is an interactive community engagement section in the website called "What's Happening". I thank the Goodna Community Co-ordination Committee, and especially Father Brian Fitzpatrick, for his dedication to this community organisation and the people of Goodna.

The Goodna Neighbourhood House is also running an employment and training program, funded by the Department of Employment and Training, through its Breaking the Unemployment Cycle Initiatives.

The Goodna TAFE House, an ordinary Department of Housing dwelling, in Goodna, is the site of our employment and training initiatives. Many people who have undertaken literacy and numeracy courses, computer courses, forklift training courses, driving courses and other training programs, now are in full-time employment. I congratulate the Goodna Neighbourhood House and Bremer TAFE for their vision in getting our people back to training and back to work. Nearly \$500,000 has been allocated to this program and it is money well spent.

Between October 1998 and March 2003, approximately \$6.9 million has been allocated under the Breaking the Unemployment Cycle Initiatives. This has resulted in 991 jobs being created in our electorate.

The multimillion dollar Goodna Urban Renewal Scheme of the Department of Housing continues for the benefit of the community.

\$44,000 has been allocated to the Goodna Youth Accommodation Service as part of the Crisis Accommodation Program.

\$50,000 has been allocated to Goodna Special School for a covered drop-off to the car park at the school. The car park has been upgraded only recently and parents and teachers of the school are very pleased with the construction in progress.

The Goodna Bowls Club will receive \$6,174 from the Department of Sport and Recreation towards the installation of an irrigation system. Our bowlers are very grateful for this contribution.

Gailes

The Gailes Community House has been a great addition to the community. The house is a focus point for the community and is yet another success story of the Goodna/Gailes Community Renewal Scheme. This house is going to be a venue for training programs to be delivered by the Bremer Institute of TAFE; training in life skills and training to get people back to work.

Redbank Plains

Redbank Plains will have a Neighbourhood Police Beat. Our Labor Government has allocated \$185,000 to establish this beat. The Redbank Plains Neighbourhood Watch are pleased with this initiative and the people of Redbank Plains will welcome a local beat policeman or policewoman in their midst.

I was privileged to attend the Redbank Plains State School fete last Saturday and am always impressed with the energy of this community. Over 150 students will be devising lyrics for six songs to be cut and used as a school CD as part of the School Arts Program.

Redbank Plains State High School, in my view, is an arts school of excellence. The school is a part of the \$400,000 school arts program and this will include traditional dance, funk dance, break dance, drama, storytelling, singing and song writing.

In August, the school will also host its Arts Expo which is a highlight of the school year. Led by Principal Ian Ferguson, this school has an enviable reputation in our community. Last year 188 students graduated from Year 12, and some of them are following in their teachers' footsteps by studying education at university. And when they graduate, I hope they will teach at my local high schools.

Our Labor Government has also made contributions to the upgrades of the Redbank Plains Recreation Reserve. Currently our government has made substantial funding available to the Ipswich City Council for the upgrade of the AFL fields and this work is now under way.

Kruger State School is in collaboration with Contact Inc and will create an original performance piece, devised by senior students of the school, as part of the School Arts Program.

Camira/Springfield

The Camira/Springfield area is growing fast.

Woodcrest College will receive \$672,000 for the new school stages 1 and 2. This will be spent in the middle school.

The Springfield and Springfield Lakes Community are also well served by the Springfield College—an Anglican College—and St Augustine's—a Catholic College. Both these schools are P-12 schools, similar to Woodcrest College, which is a Queensland Government State School.

Great news for Springfield is that \$185,000 has been allocated for a Police Beat Shop Front. Planning by the Queensland Police Service is well under way to make this police beat a reality as soon as possible.

I am well aware of the growth in the Camira/Springfield and Springfield Lakes area and I want to assure the local community that the Queensland government is tracking the growth rates with interest.

Mr Speaker, the Bundamba electorate is the hub of economic development in Ipswich.

In the Camira/Springfield, Springfield Lakes, Collingwood Park, and Redbank Plains areas, the level of housing development actually occurring, or in the planning stages, is outstanding. There is tens of millions of dollars in investment in this sector alone.

In the business sector there is the proposed Swanbank Paper Mill, and the CS Energy Swanbank Park; there is Capral and the developments at the Bremer Business Park; there is the industrial estate being developed at Springfield, and over my border, there is the Synergy Industrial Park. There is over \$1.4 billion in investment in these industrial developments alone.

I am determined, however, that in this progressive stage of our electorate that our people will be given the opportunity for local jobs, through local training programs, through the Bremer Institute of TAFE, through school-based apprenticeships and school-based traineeships, through giving our young students the desire and willingness to stay at school or at TAFE until Year 12, and also by retraining our existing workforce to work in new industries.

On behalf of our people in the Bundamba electorate, I thank the Premier, Peter Beattie, and the Treasurer, and Ministers, for this great State Budget.

I would particularly like to thank my Minister, the Minister for Education, Anna Bligh, as over \$830,000 will be spent in education initiatives alone in Bundamba electorate. I would like to thank the Minister for Transport for the \$10 million towards a current \$66 million Federal funding commitment to complete planning of the Ipswich Motorway upgrade from 4 lanes to 6 lanes, between Granard Road to Riverview. However, the Federal Government needs to get the moths out of its Budget as the Ipswich Motorway needs Federal funding of hundreds of millions of dollars to make it run smoothly. I will keep the pressure on the Federal Government, as it is their responsibility to fund the Ipswich Motorway.

I would like to thank the Treasurer and Minister for Sports for the funding of the Goodna pool. This will be a real asset in my community and will improve their health and wellbeing.

The Minister for Employment and Training and Minister for the Arts, Matt Foley, has taken a keen interest in our community, particularly in the Arts. I thank him for his contribution to the School Arts Programs and his support for arts programs in our community generally.

The Minister for Housing should also be thanked for his continuing efforts in urban renewal and community renewal programs.

This is a Labor Government Budget, once again, delivering for its Labor heartland. The Beattie Labor Government, of which I am a proud member representing the people of Bundamba electorate, works with the community delivering powerful and effective programs that matter in the community because IT IS PART OF THE COMMUNITY. It is this partnership that makes the real difference. It is a Labor Government, delivering for Labor people.

I commend the Budget to the House.