



Speech by

Hon. PETER BEATTIE

MEMBER FOR BRISBANE CENTRAL

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MINISTERIAL STATEMENT

South East Queensland Infrastructure Plan

Hon. PD BEATTIE (Brisbane Central—ALP) (Premier) (9.33 am): I would like to briefly update members on the largest building program ever undertaken in the history of Queensland. The \$55 billion South East Queensland Infrastructure Plan will be a legacy of our government that will benefit this region for generations to come. It is a comprehensive document that clearly maps out two decades of road, rail, water, energy, health, education and community infrastructure. It will create hundreds of thousands of jobs for people involved in planning, designing and building new infrastructure—320,000 new jobs for road and public transport infrastructure alone.

I am surprised when I hear the opposition attack this blueprint. I think the opposition believes that it cannot be done. The opposition's lack of policy, drive and vision has made it blind to what good government can achieve. I am happy to inform opposition members that while they squabble amongst themselves we are getting on with the job.

Major road projects in the plan are well into construction, including the \$121 million upgrade of the Bruce Highway between Boundary Road and Caboolture, the \$82 million Caboolture northern bypass—

Mr Copeland interjected.

Mr SPEAKER: Member for Cunningham, I am warning you under 253. You sit there all day and you make these interjections. I warn you under 253.

Mr BEATTIE: Mr Speaker, I was saying that these major road projects in the plan are well into construction. They include the \$121 million upgrade of the Bruce Highway between Boundary Road and Caboolture, the \$82 million Caboolture northern bypass, the \$124 million upgrade on Hope Island Road, the \$53 million upgrade to Nerang-Broadbeach Road and the \$32 million Linkfield connection road, which I will be opening tomorrow.

Mr Terry Sullivan: Bonny Barry's very happy with that.

Mr BEATTIE: Indeed, and so is the Attorney-General. Over \$30 million has been spent on these four projects alone this financial year. Major road projects due to commence this year include the Tugun bypass, the Gateway upgrade project and the Sunshine Motorway upgrade near Sippy Downs. Acquisitions for the Centenary Highway extension have been brought forward, and the government has commenced the western Brisbane transport network investigation to resolve longstanding transport issues in this future growth area.

The government is also working closely with the Brisbane City Council to progress the TransApex projects. Indeed, those opposite should take a leaf out of the lord mayor's book—at least he will try to work with us to get projects up that will benefit the people of Brisbane.

We are improving our public transport networks with upgrades to the Gold Coast rail line; the section between Ormeau and Coomera is under construction. Construction is due to commence in the first half of this year on the Queen Street station to Roma Street extension of the Inner Northern Busway and the

Boggo Road to Green Bridge Busway, and significant planning is occurring in relation to the northern and eastern busways.

Queensland Rail is progressing the delivery of \$665 million in rail projects. I also announced yesterday the major initiative of QR going national, and I table more details on that with a package of information for the information of the House. As I said, Queensland Rail is progressing the delivery of \$665 million in rail projects. The projects to be completed between 2009 and 2012 include the Caboolture and Beerburrum duplication, the Robina to Reedy Creek extension, the Corinda to Darra third track and the Beerburrum to Landsborough duplication.

Two water projects, which together could provide an extra 100 million litres of water every day for south-east Queensland, are moving ahead. \$20 million has been allocated to commence design, route acquisition and other preconstruction works for stage 1 of the Western Corridor Recycled Water Project. In addition, the \$12 million Cedar Grove Weir on the Logan River is on track for completion in 2007-08 with land acquisition due to commence shortly.

We are building our energy network, and work is well underway with the \$46.9 million reinforcement of transmission capacity between Belmont and Murarrie, the \$38 million bulk supply point and 110 kilovolt switching point at Goodna and the \$19.3 million replacement of assets at the Molendinar substation on the Gold Coast, to mention just a few.

This infrastructure plan breaks new ground both in terms of its size and the integrated nature of the investment projects. To accomplish this task, a program management office has been established as part of the Coordinator-General's office to coordinate delivery of the South East Queensland Infrastructure Plan across government. It includes a mix of government staff and representatives from the private sector who will contribute their knowledge, experience and skills in the planning and delivery of the large-scale infrastructure program being undertaken by government.

With the support of business and industry, we are delivering on our ambitious South East Queensland Infrastructure Plan. We are getting on with the job and providing the bricks and mortar to help build for the future of this vibrant and wonderful state. We are building tomorrow's Queensland today. Only my government has the stability and strength of leadership necessary to continue to build Queensland.