



Speech by

Hon. PETER BEATTIE

MEMBER FOR BRISBANE CENTRAL

Hansard Tuesday, 6 June 2006

MINISTERIAL STATEMENT

Tank Street Bridge

Hon. PD BEATTIE (Brisbane Central—ALP) (Premier) (9.35 am): My government will call for expressions of interest this week for the design and construction of a second footbridge over the Brisbane River that will provide a direct pedestrian—

Honourable members interjected.

Mr SPEAKER: Order! This House has been in session for five minutes and already there are certain members here who, in my opinion, are trying to disrupt proceedings. I give all members a final warning: if this nonsense continues, I will eject people from this chamber.

Mr Johnson: From both sides?

Mr SPEAKER: I have said all honourable members.

Mr BEATTIE: My government will call for expressions of interest this week for the design and construction of a second footbridge over the Brisbane River that will provide a direct pedestrian and cycle link between the city and the new Millennium Arts Precinct at South Brisbane. Today's budget will allocate \$13.5 million to it so construction of the Tank Street bridge will be underway in 2007. The \$63.3 million project will complete a pedestrian cycle loop linking the city and South Bank by the Goodwill Bridge and Tank Street. It is an opportunity for a contractor to take part in an exciting project that will make Brisbane an even better place to live and, dare I say, a healthier place to live. Like the Goodwill Bridge, the new Tank Street bridge will invite people to walk and cycle their way to a healthier lifestyle and help address environment and traffic issues.

The Department of Public Works is seeking expressions of interest from design and construction contractors who are pre-qualified to meet main roads department technical criteria for bridge projects—project level B4—to be considered as tenderers. I look forward to working with Robert Schwarten, the minister for public works, and Desley Boyle, the minister for local government. Submissions will close on Friday, 16 June and an advertisement will appear in tomorrow's *Courier-Mail*. This is another example of my government's commitment to building a better Queensland.