



Speech by

# Hon. PETER BEATTIE

MEMBER FOR BRISBANE CENTRAL

Hansard Thursday, 15 March 2007

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## MINISTERIAL STATEMENT

### Gateway Upgrade

**Hon. PD BEATTIE** (Brisbane Central—ALP) (Premier and Minister for Trade) (9.48 am): I am also pleased to report to the House that work is underway on the \$1.88 billion Gateway upgrade, which is the largest road and bridge construction project in Queensland's history. This is the start of another massive infrastructure project to meet the demands of a rapidly growing population and economy in south-east Queensland.

The Gateway upgrade project, which is being run by the minister for transport, includes the construction of a duplicate six-lane bridge that will feature a dedicated pedestrian/cycleway to be completed by late 2010. That will be much to the delight of the Deputy Premier and Minister for Infrastructure who loves bike riding.

Once completed, the existing Gateway Bridge will be refurbished, with both bridges fully open by mid-2011. The project will also see the upgrade of 20 kilometres of the Gateway Motorway from Mount Gravatt-Capalaba Road to Nudgee Road, including a new deviation through the old and new airport sites which will provide a second access to the Brisbane Airport. I seek leave to incorporate more details in *Hansard*.

Leave granted.

The economic benefits derived from the project are enormous Mr Speaker, with more than 5,000 jobs being created and massive flow-on effects into the local economy.

In addition, the project is critical in supporting the continued growth of Australia TradeCoast, which contributes more than \$4.3 billion annually to the Queensland economy and generates five per cent of total employment for the Brisbane area.

Mr Speaker, motorists will notice huge differences in travel times with a trip from Rochedale to Brisbane Airport expected to be cut by 15 minutes, and a 10 minute saving between Caboolture and the Port of Brisbane during peak times.

Motorists will also benefit from the introduction of multi-lane, free-flow tolling and the removal of all toll booths. This will create a quicker, easier and safer travel experience for motorists.

**Mr Lucas:** Nothing from the feds.

**Mr BEATTIE:** I take the interjection from the minister for transport. How much federal money is involved in that project? Nothing! Zilch! Not a cent!