



Speech by

Hon. PETER BEATTIE

MEMBER FOR BRISBANE CENTRAL

Hansard Tuesday, 5 June 2007

MINISTERIAL STATEMENT

Gold Coast, Rail Services

Hon. PD BEATTIE (Brisbane Central—ALP) (Premier and Minister for Trade) (9.52 am): Members may be aware of the new Gold Coast rail services, and I am pleased to report to the House today that the first of the 44 new QR Citytrains was pressed into service on the Gold Coast last week. The state-of-the-art trains have significantly boosted the number of seats on peak services, with two three-car sets online providing more than 800 extra seats for Gold Coast commuters. The minister for transport, the Treasurer and I took the first of these trains on a demonstration run to show the people of Queensland, and those who saw the coverage of that would realise just what a fantastic service it is. The new trains have enabled QR to add another two services on the Gold Coast line, with the maiden run departing from Robina station at 7.38 am last Monday morning. I seek leave to incorporate more details in *Hansard*.

Leave granted.

The new Citytrains are being built in Maryborough by EDIRail and Bombardier Transportation.

They're sleek and can reach a top speed of 130 km/h more quickly than existing trains on the network.

Stopping power has been improved and they're more comfortable with bigger seats, more leg room, toilets, plenty of space for luggage, and no doors between carriages.

Technology hasn't been left out of the equation either Mr Speaker, with improved CCTV security systems and LED screens inside every carriage for up-to-the minute journey information.

And this is just the beginning, Mr Speaker. We will spend over \$500 million to deliver 44 new three car train sets by the end of 2010, with the Gold Coast to receive an additional three new six-car trains in 2007.

More trains are a key election commitment for my Government Mr Speaker, and we're delivering.