



Speech by

Hon. Anastacia Palaszczuk

MEMBER FOR INALA

Hansard Tuesday, 5 October 2010

CONNECTING SEQ 2031

Hon. A PALASZCZUK (Inala—ALP) (Minister for Disability Services and Multicultural Affairs) (9.37 pm): The Bligh government is building the transport infrastructure South-East Queensland needs for the future. Connecting SEQ 2031 is an integrated regional transport plan for South-East Queensland that will create the networks we need for the next 20 years. We are building the roads, the railways and the busways needed to meet the region's growing population. We are also creating jobs for thousands of Queenslanders. In South-East Queensland alone, \$4 billion in transport infrastructure projects are currently underway. Out in the south-west corridor, member for Indooroopilly, over \$1 billion is being spent. The Bligh government is investing in public transport. We are investing in the necessary infrastructure to meet the state's growing needs.

Out in Richlands in my own electorate we are building a \$40 million brand-new railway station due to be completed early next year. I was recently on the site and it is 80 per cent complete. This is great news for the people living in Forest Lake, Inala, Richlands, Carole Park and Camira. There will be a carpark for over 600 people, disability access and a kiss and ride. But what else is happening? The local students are participating in the artwork. Students from Richlands State School, Richlands East State School, Glenala High School, Serviceton South State School and St Marks primary school are contributing to the artwork on the train station. Horizon Alliance, which is building the train station, is investing in the local community. At the Western Suburbs State Special School, Horizon Alliance has constructed what I think is Queensland's largest sandpit. I was out there recently, walking for a day in the shoes of a teacher aide, and I saw those kids' smiles as they played in the sandpit made by Horizon Alliance.

What else are we doing? We are investing \$16 million to upgrade the Darra train station and build more car parks. That project is due to be completed by mid-December. There will be a community open day. What else are we doing? We are going to extend the train line not only from Darra to Richlands but also from Richlands to Springfield. That will be delivered by this government by 2013, two years ahead of schedule. That is what this government is doing. We are investing in the public transport that we need for the future.

The Bligh government is delivering. The Bligh government is setting the vision that we need. We are getting people off the roads and we are getting them on to public transport. We are also expanding our motorways with the expansion of the Ipswich Motorway and upgrades to the Centenary interchange. All we hear from those opposite—and we have just heard from the member for Indooroopilly—is whinging and complaints. This government is delivering on infrastructure and delivering on jobs.