



Speech by

Mark Ryan

MEMBER FOR MORAYFIELD

Hansard Thursday, 10 June 2010

APPROPRIATION (PARLIAMENT) BILL; APPROPRIATION BILL; REVENUE LEGISLATION AMENDMENT BILL

Mr RYAN (Morayfield—ALP) (2.45 pm): It is indeed an honour to rise in this parliament as the state member for Morayfield and contribute to the debate on the 2010-11 Queensland state budget. Around the world, governments and economies continue to face some of the toughest economic and financial challenges since the Great Depression. Around our state, Queenslanders continue to experience tightening household budgets and employment uncertainty. Whilst economic outlooks may have marginally improved since last year, the current circumstances nonetheless demand that we must stay on course. If we had not acted decisively, if we had not decided to continue building a modern, contemporary Queensland, then we would have denied the dark realities of the moment.

With this state budget this state government is continuing to build the Queensland of tomorrow. With this state budget this state government is delivering real and practical support for vulnerable, marginalised and disadvantaged Queenslanders. With this state budget this state government is creating and supporting jobs for Queenslanders by delivering the public services and public infrastructure desperately needed in our communities. This is a budget for a modern Queensland, and I am proud to support it.

The 2010-11 Queensland state budget continues the work of last year's budget, of reprioritising the role of government. In these contemporary times we must focus on the proper role of modern government. This focus means investing in people. This focus means providing strong, stable and compassionate government for the Queensland of today and the Queensland of tomorrow. This 2010-11 state budget continues the government's investment in strategies which create and support jobs and expand the infrastructure building program, which is delivering new public assets like new hospitals, new schools, new public transport infrastructure and new roads for Queenslanders.

It is for those reasons that the people of the Morayfield state electorate will welcome the initiatives and projects funded in this year's state budget. From a local perspective, I am very pleased to see that the full upgrade of Narangba Railway Station will be funded in this year's budget. Along with the state member for Kallangur, I have been vocal in my advocacy for this critical infrastructure improvement for the Narangba community. The full upgrade of Narangba Railway Station will not only improve disability access to this busy train station but deliver more commuter friendly facilities for rail users. I would like to thank the Treasurer and the Minister for Transport for their support of this important infrastructure project for the people of the Morayfield state electorate.

In addition, this state budget provides funding for the commencement of the four-lane upgrade of Morayfield Road from Uhlmann Road at Burpengary to Gaffield Street at Morayfield. I am especially pleased to see that these roadworks are expected to commence within the next 12 months. Whilst I take this opportunity to thank residents of the Morayfield state electorate in advance for their patience during construction, I am sure that all residents will be excited, as I am, that this long-awaited road project will soon be underway. This commitment is outstanding news for the Morayfield state electorate. I would like to thank the Premier, the Treasurer and the Minister for Main Roads for their strong support of this construction project.

I note that this budget also allocates \$472,500 to upgrade parts of Raynbird Road at Narangba and \$335,000 to upgrade parts of Oakey Flat Road, which is also at Narangba. These upgrades will be warmly received by users of those roads. In addition to funding these infrastructure building projects, funding will also be allocated to plan the provision of a new facility for integrated community based health care at Caboolture, to build new classrooms at Caboolture Special School and to complete a new zone electricity substation at Burpengary. These building projects will not only deliver the public infrastructure needed for the rapidly growing Morayfield state electorate; they will create and support local jobs during construction. These projects are concrete proof of this state government's commitment to provide new public assets for Queensland and support jobs for Queenslanders.

This budget also delivers on this government's commitment to support vulnerable, marginalised and disadvantaged Queenslanders. Madam Deputy Speaker, in light of the time, I seek leave to incorporate the remainder of my budget speech in *Hansard*. Mr Speaker has approved the incorporation of my speech.

Leave granted.

In the Morayfield State Electorate, I note that this budget provides:

- Over \$400,000 for crisis accommodation, supported medium-term accommodation and social support for young people;
- Over \$580,000 to help adults with a disability maintain the living arrangements of their choice and participate in their community;
- Over \$145,000 to provide short term and limited respite support for families, carers and people with a disability;
- Almost \$750,000 to provide emotional and social support to young people to successfully transition into and through the Senior Phase of Learning;
- Over \$3.6 million in Home and Community Care funding for Blue Care to provide support to eligible people throughout the Caboolture-Morayfield region;
- Over \$1.5 million to provide foster, kinship and residential care services for young people with moderate to extreme support needs;
- Over \$3.5 million to construct sixteen, two-bedroom apartments in Morayfield;
- Over \$1.5 million to continue construction of a therapeutic residential care facility in Morayfield; and
- Over \$36 million to support regional employment projects.

This budgetary funding will provide real and practical support for many people living in the Morayfield State Electorate. I welcome this funding on behalf of those people.

The decisions made by the State Government in this year's budget allow the Government to continue supporting jobs and infrastructure expansion around Queensland.

Governments cannot be all things to all people. But government can make decisions to support jobs and help marginalised and disadvantaged people by investing in public infrastructure and public services.

This year's budget does that.

From a broader Queensland perspective, I am pleased that this year's budget contains the following measures:

- A \$24 per annum cut to CTP insurance on car registration;
- Continuing the 125% payroll tax rebate for people employing apprentices and trainees;
- Increasing the electricity rebate for pensioners and seniors to \$216 per annum;
- Introducing a \$216 concession for eligible people to assist with the electricity costs associated with medical cooling and heating;
- Employing 720 more nurses, 180 more doctors and 300 more allied health professionals;
- Employing 203 more police officers;
- Employing 316 more teachers and teacher aides and increasing the funding for teacher aides by an additional 5,000 teacher aide hours;
- Employing 75 more ambulance officers;

These budgetary strategies are founded solidly in good Labor values and are necessary actions for a modern contemporary Queensland Government.

I am pleased that the 2010-2011 Queensland State Budget is delivering critical public infrastructure and key support measures for the people of the Morayfield State Electorate. I commend the Appropriation Bill to the House and encourage all Members of this House to support this year's State Budget.