




Speech by

Fiona Simpson

MEMBER FOR MAROOCHYDORE

Hansard Thursday, 13 October 2011

SUNSHINE COAST BUS HUB

 **Ms SIMPSON** (Maroochydore—LNP) (3.30 pm): Waste is in the DNA of this Labor government. The biggest bus hub on the Sunshine Coast is gridlocked due to the state government's haphazard timetabling for the upgrade to fix a current safety problem. Those delays are adding to the cost and are also adding to major concerns as the bus hub is at the very heart of the Sunshine Coast network and there is a limit on how many more buses can operate through the area.

It is time for the transport minister to come clean and explain where the starting date on the works has gone to. Twelve months ago the glossy brochures went out, saying that the design would be finished at the end of the last year. This year they acquired the property, tipped out the tenants and told us that work was going to start before the end of this year. Now we have been told there is yet another delay because they are changing the design. They are going back to consultation because they have a problem with their design.

This kind of dodgy way of proceeding with a project is typical of what is happening throughout Queensland. We have a situation where rent has been wasted, tenants have been turfed out, businesses have gone from the properties that have been acquired and yet the government cannot tell us the starting date for this important project.

This is a bus station; it is not brain surgery. It seems that anything this government turns its hands to it bungles. We have seen it waste more than half a billion dollars on a pipeline to no real dam at the back of the Sunshine Coast. They started partially on a bus station but then put the project on hold. They said that they were going back to the drawing board because they have not done the basics. That is typical of what happens with this government: waste and mismanagement at every turn, from the smallest project to the largest project. Tragically, once gone, that money is lost from other projects that are desperately needed. Half a billion dollars was wasted on a pipeline to nowhere, the Traveston Dam—

(Time expired)