



Speech by


## Michael Crandon

MEMBER FOR COOMERA

Hansard Tuesday, 25 October 2011

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### MOTION: CONNECTING SEQ 2031

 **Mr CRANDON** (Coomera—LNP) (5.40 pm): I rise to second the motion moved by the member for Indooroopilly. This is a fascinating document and I think it would probably be appropriate to rename it. It is called Connecting SEQ 2031, but perhaps calling it 'Conning SEQ towards 2031' might be a more accurate description of the document. This document is quite weighty, it is really glossy and it would probably make a good paper weight. What it will not do is solve the problems for Gold Coast commuters and their transport woes. From that perspective, it is absolutely useless. This is an unfunded \$227 billion document put on the people of Queensland to con them into thinking that this government is actually going to do something.

The cross-river rail has already been raised and the fact is that it has been pushed out from 2016 to 2018 and now to 2020. It is unfunded in any case, so what is the point in even discussing the matter? What does this do for the Gold Coast rail 'Bombay Express'? If we do not have that cross-river rail by 2016, what will this government do for the 'Bombay Express' with its current plans? We are going to see more and more people who simply will not get on the trains to come to Brisbane. They will clog up our roads because they are sick to death of the overcrowded trips to Brisbane.

What about goals for passenger numbers? This document talks about doubling it from four to eight per cent, or whatever the figures might be. This document has these aspirations and this capacity that the government wants to try to achieve, yet when we look at the TransLink Tracker we see some figures that are a little bit odd. We have got dropping numbers, yet the TransLink Tracker tells us that in March 2010 the morning and evening peak services were at a level whereby five of the eight services in the morning and three of the nine services in the afternoon were overcrowded. Yet a year later, we have a situation where six of the eight trains in the morning and six of the nine trains in the afternoon are overcrowded. If you do the sums, that is a 20 per cent increase in overcrowding in the morning and a 50 per cent increase—

**Mr Lucas** interjected.

**Mr CRANDON:** These are your figures; these are your government's figures and here they are in black and white. They contradict one another, and it is time that the minister owned up and said what the issues really are and where the numbers do not stack up. We have this question mark over the statistics and the figures. Why are people hopping on the train at the moment during peak hour? Maybe they are trying it and maybe they will give it up again. I do not know the answer. The answers are in the government's figures and we look forward to hearing from the minister to tell us where the correct figures are.

I turn to the bus network in the northern Gold Coast. The government stopped the funding for the planning of the northern Gold Coast bus network. I am not talking about the buses; the government stopped the money for the planning for the northern Gold Coast and it is in an absolute diabolical mess. As for the 19 items in this document for the Gold Coast—this con document for South-East Queensland—it happens that 10 of them are in my electorate. Looking at each of those 10 items and knowing that they are completely unfunded, I have got to say that this is simply a wish list.

**Ms Palaszczuk** interjected.

**Mr CRANDON:** I wish it was going to happen, but it is not going to happen, Minister, because you have not got the wherewithal. You produced a giant document of 120-odd pages to sucker and con the people of the Gold Coast and South-East Queensland. In the last 20 years, this government has underperformed in relation to delivering services to the people of the Gold Coast. In the next 20 years, all the government has is a completely unfunded wish list for the people of the Gold Coast. I will make sure that they know what the government's story is.

*(Time expired)*