


Speech by  
**Jackie Trad**

**MEMBER FOR SOUTH BRISBANE**

Hansard Thursday, 7 June 2012

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## **BUSWAYS**

 **Ms TRAD** (South Brisbane—ALP) (6.07 pm): When the next stage of the Northern Busway from the Royal Brisbane and Women's Hospital to Kedron opens on 18 June, it will be another piece of world-class public transport infrastructure delivered by Labor. When the Labor government was elected in 1998 there was not one single kilometre of busway in Brisbane. Thanks to our investment over many years there are now more than 26 kilometres of dedicated busway in Brisbane. The new \$444 million extension of the Northern Busway from the Royal Brisbane and Women's Hospital to Kedron will complete the existing South East Busway to Eight Mile Plains and the Eastern Busway from the University of Queensland to Langlands Park. For people in the northern suburbs of Brisbane this new piece of infrastructure means bus services will be more frequent and more reliable.

The new Northern Busway was conceived, funded and delivered by Labor. The new services that will run on the busway were designed, planned and funded by Labor. However, sadly, this may be the last piece of busway opened for some time. The future growth of the busway network is at risk under the Newman government. We all know that the Premier's passion is building road infrastructure for private vehicles, except on the Warrego Highway. Despite spending billions of dollars building tunnels and road bridges that nobody used during his time as Lord Mayor, the Premier did not contribute a single cent to the construction of Brisbane's busways, which carried more than 70 million people in 2010-11. In fact, one of his major contributions was to remove bus lanes from Coronation Drive and Ann Street, meaning buses sit for longer in traffic.

The Minister for Transport and Main Road's recent announcement that he would strip funding out of QTRIP has put at risk \$182 million in critical capital funding for busway projects, including \$10 million in critical maintenance on the South East Busway, Eastern Busway and Inner Northern Busway; \$23 million to extend the South East Busway to Rochedale; \$39 million in planning and land purchases for the extension of the Northern Busway from Kedron to Bracken Ridge; and \$110 million for the construction of the busway station at Carindale, as well as busway approaches.

The Premier and the minister cannot spin these facts and the record speaks for itself. Only Labor can deliver public transport infrastructure like the new Northern Busway.