




Speech By
Hon. David Crisafulli

MEMBER FOR MUNDINGBURRA

PRIVATE MEMBERS' STATEMENTS

Road Infrastructure

 **Hon. DF CRISAFULLI** (Mundingburra—LNP) (Minister for Local Government, Community Recovery and Resilience) (3.07 pm): We have heard a lot this week about the need to turn around what has been a generation of wasted opportunities and wasted money. There are myriad reasons we have to do that, but one of the most important is the need to build better infrastructure. That can only happen if you have the finances to do that. When I look around my part of the world in the electorate of Mundingburra, I see a part of the state that for too long has given more than it has got in return. There is no doubt that there is a need for more infrastructure, but we have made a start. We have started to take some steps forward.

In the area of roads—an area which I am most passionate about and one of the reasons I came into this place—we have made some steps forward. I want to touch on some of the things we have achieved and where I think we need to go in the future. Already work has begun on the intersection of Woolcock and Mather streets. That is about a \$10 million job. I see the transport minister nodding. Like the previous member, I intend to say very kind things about the transport minister. That is a key project. There is also work going on at the intersection of Nathan Street, Dalrymple Road and Duckworth Street. Both of those are happening at present.

Very shortly, work will begin on Blakey's Crossing. Blakey's Crossing is a local government road, but it would be hypocritical of me to have come into this place and to have said that that was not an important piece of infrastructure for the state to fund. Why? Because it is a key arterial link that links people into not only our industrial area but also the northern beaches into our city, and it was a job that needed to be done. For too long it was part of political games. The minister's predecessor held the council to ransom on it for too long. I am so proud that this year that \$24 million project will be funded entirely by the state government, and I thank the minister for that.

Following work on that vital piece of infrastructure, work on the Dalrymple Road-Banfield Drive intersection will begin. Again, it is another key piece of infrastructure. I want to make this point to members today: my city may not yet have 200,000 people but you cannot say that it does not have issues with managing traffic. You cannot say that because a city does not have a capital status or because it does not have millions of people that it does not have issues. We have reached that point. It is absolutely essential that we deliver this infrastructure because it has been spoken about a lot over the years but it has never been done.

The next project on my list in the years to come is the intersection between Mervyn Crossman Drive, Annandale along Stuart Drive and the duplication of that bridge. That is a key road for people who work in the part of the city I represent around Lavarack Barracks. It is a key piece of infrastructure for people who get choked in traffic as they take their kids to William Ross High and Southern Cross School. It needs to be done, and I am proud that the first steps are occurring under the Newman government.