




Speech By
Hon. Anastacia Palaszczuk

MEMBER FOR INALA

Record of Proceedings, 21 May 2015

MINISTERIAL STATEMENT

Road Projects

 **Hon. A PALASZCZUK** (Inala—ALP) (Premier and Minister for the Arts) (9.34 am): My government is keeping Queenslanders connected as they travel throughout the state. This week we have roadworks underway right across Queensland. Not only is our multibillion dollar investment delivering a safer and reliable road network, it is also delivering jobs when job security is more important than ever. We are creating more than 14,500 direct jobs every year over the next four years.

In Townsville, work is underway on the final section of the ring-road. The state has provided \$40 million to sign, seal and deliver that important project. All up, there are 290 jobs for Queenslanders. Not far away, the Bruce Highway is being upgraded from two lanes to four between Vantassel and Cluden. We are investing more than \$27 million in a project that is delivering 228 jobs. In Rockhampton, works are underway to elevate the Bruce Highway across the Yeppen Floodplain. Queensland is investing \$34 million, creating over 200 jobs. In Gladstone, \$12 million is being injected into the Kin Kora roundabout, creating 78 jobs. It was wonderful to see the member for Gladstone on site, talking up the works. On the Sunshine Coast we are contributing \$245 million to upgrade the Bruce Highway between Cooroy and Curra, providing 340 jobs. On the Gold Coast we are spending almost \$120 million on the Smith Street interchange, providing 273—

Mr Seeney: \$400 million that we allocated and you opposed. You criticised me for it!

Ms PALASZCZUK: Mr Speaker, what does the member for Callide have against jobs for Queenslanders? They are a bit upset today.

Mr SPEAKER: Premier, do not provoke them. Member for Callide, thank you.

Ms PALASZCZUK: West of the Great Divide, on the Warrego Highway the first stage of the Toowoomba to Oakey upgrade is underway with funding of \$21 million, creating 210 jobs. On the Mitchell Highway between Cunnamulla and Charleville, we are building a new bridge across Angellala Creek with \$10 million in funding, providing 24 jobs for locals. A year ago, the old bridge was completely wiped out by a massive explosion and last month I was there to announce the successful tenderer. As a result, the new bridge will be in place by the end of the year. My government knows the importance of a safe and reliable road network. We want Queenslanders, no matter where they travel in this vast state, to arrive safely.