




Speech By
Hon. Anastacia Palaszczuk

MEMBER FOR INALA

Record of Proceedings, 27 October 2015

MINISTERIAL STATEMENT

Draft State Infrastructure Plan

 **Hon. A PALASZCZUK** (Inala—ALP) (Premier and Minister for the Arts) (10.14 am): My government understands that infrastructure investment underpins economic growth and generates jobs. That is why we have committed to deliver a State Infrastructure Plan which my Deputy Premier released yesterday. The plan will support the long-term prosperity, livability and sustainability of Queensland. As an important step in developing this plan we have released the draft of the plan for targeted consultation.

To provide certainty to industry, the draft plan outlines a defined four-year program of infrastructure projects with committed funding. The draft plan also identifies the future service needs and infrastructure challenges facing Queensland and highlights the opportunities that these present. I encourage stakeholders to provide their feedback on the approach to infrastructure planning, prioritisation and delivery outlined in the draft plan and I look forward to releasing the final plan in early 2016.

As we release this plan for consultation this week, it is timely to reflect on how Labor governments have grown Queensland, providing priority infrastructure for Queenslanders, in stark contrast to the former LNP government which, during three years in office, we are not quite sure what it actually built. Let me remind members that it was a Labor government that built the \$475 million Richlands to Springfield rail line; it was a Labor government that joined with the federal government to build stage 1 of the Gold Coast Light Rail system and we will partner with the Commonwealth again for stage 2; it was a Labor government that built the \$1.7 billion Gold Coast University Hospital and spent more than \$1.4 billion redeveloping hospitals in Cairns, Mackay, Mount Isa, Townsville and Rockhampton just to name a few. It is a Labor government that has committed to a total infrastructure spend of \$35 billion over the next four years. That will include \$200 million over two years for Building our Regions; it includes \$90 million for a new primary school and planning for a new high school in the Townsville region; it includes new funding of \$180 million for an Enhancing Regional Hospitals Program to undertake essential upgrades in Caloundra, Roma, Hervey Bay and Gladstone; it includes a new \$40 million Western Roads Upgrade Program over two years to deliver vitally needed works on state controlled roads in Western Queensland; it includes \$161 million in additional funding to upgrade major Gold Coast roads in the lead-up to the 2018 Commonwealth Games; it includes a \$100 million commitment to support the development of a Townsville stadium and \$30 million for a Queensland state netball centre.

This is what Labor governments do—we build—and this is what my government will continue to do into the future with the release of this very important infrastructure plan which builds the Queensland of tomorrow.