




Speech By
Christopher Whiting

MEMBER FOR MURRUMBIDGE

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PRIVATE MEMBER'S STATEMENT

Boundary Road Overpass

 **Mr WHITING** (Murrumbidgee—ALP) (2.45 pm): I rise today to speak about the funding of the new Boundary Road overpass by the federal and state governments. The overpass over the Bruce Highway connects the electorates of Kallangur and Murrumbidgee and, as the member for Kallangur can attest, the Boundary Road overpass is one of the most crucial parts of infrastructure needed in our area. Each day residents of the Murrumbidgee and Kallangur electorates spend up to 10 or 15 minutes a day queued on both sides of Boundary Road simply waiting to get onto the highway.

The Minister for Main Roads, Road Safety and Ports and Minister for Energy and Water Supply, Mark Bailey, has announced that the Palaszczuk Labor government will contribute to the reconstruction of the Boundary Road overpass to allow easier access to the Bruce Highway. This is a wonderful result for the residents of North Lakes and Deception Bay. I cannot stress how appreciated this will be by the residents of North Lakes. This is a \$105 million project jointly funded by the federal government, \$84 million, and the state government, \$21 million. It means 160 jobs during construction. The LNP Campbell Newman government announced during the election campaign that it would fund it, but it relied on returning local LNP members and selling off assets. We are committed to delivering this infrastructure and we do not have to sell assets.

I pay special tribute to the Minister for Main Roads, Road Safety and Ports and Minister for Energy and Water Supply, Mark Bailey, who has done a superb job on this project. He announced this in March but I understand that he has been liaising with the Deputy Prime Minister, Warren Truss, since the earliest days of the election of the Palaszczuk Labor government. He contacted the member for Kallangur and I immediately after the election and asked us about our top priorities. We both nominated Boundary Road. Delivering this transport infrastructure is vital to the outer urban communities in Murrumbidgee. As I said in my inaugural speech, these are the ribbons that connect our people to jobs and education. I say to the residents of North Lakes and Deception Bay that it is Labor who delivers the road and rail that you need.

Like the residents of my electorate, I cannot wait for the opening of the Moreton Bay Rail Link. This project, initiated by state and federal governments and helped out by the local government, will open next year. It will open up a new world for all the residents in our area. I can see the excitement of the member for Redcliffe. I thank the Deputy Prime Minister and the federal member for Petrie for the level of cooperation we have achieved to get the Boundary Road overpass happening and thank once again the Queensland Minister for Main Roads, Road Safety and Ports and Minister for Energy and Water Supply who has delivered for the people of Murrumbidgee so quickly.