




Speech By
Hon. Mark Bailey

MEMBER FOR YEERONGPILLY

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MINISTERIAL STATEMENT

Infrastructure Projects

 **Hon. MC BAILEY** (Yeerongpilly—ALP) (Minister for Main Roads, Road Safety and Ports and Minister for Energy and Water Supply) (10.31 am): The Palaszczuk government is delivering on road, energy and water supply infrastructure projects right across Queensland. I am pleased to be able to update the House on some of the roadworks underway and the jobs that we are delivering for Queenslanders. Over the next four years our \$15 billion road investment will provide a safe and reliable road network and create almost 15,000 jobs. As well as that, there will be a \$2.4 billion investment in the Energy and Water portfolio.

Our road projects are not just limited to the south-east corner. In Cape York, south of Coen, we have started sealing 29 kilometres of the Peninsula Developmental Road, creating 91 jobs. Work is also underway further south on that same road at Sorayas Hill, creating 18 jobs. In Townsville work is continuing on the final section of the ring road. We have invested \$40 million to sign, seal and deliver this project. That will create 290 jobs for North Queensland.

Flood immunity on the Bruce south of Ayr will be improved with works underway to upgrade the Yellow Gin Creek bridge, creating 100 jobs. Still on the Bruce, we are contributing \$245 million for an upgrade between Cooroy and Curra, creating 433 jobs.

Early works are underway for the Gateway upgrade north project. The main works are to start early next year, creating more than 1,000 jobs. Travelling south to the Gold Coast, I was proud to turn the first sod on the exit 54 project—one that the previous government was never able to get underway. That will create 163 direct jobs. Of course, community engagement and early works are underway on the \$1.6 billion Toowoomba second range crossing, delivering 1,800 jobs and, ultimately, significant safety and amenity improvements for Toowoomba and South-West Queensland.

Opposition members interjected.

Mr BAILEY: Members opposite like to maintain the fiction that they were the great deliverers on infrastructure, but the facts do not bear that out. The Newman government's 2012-13 QTRIP program continued funding for hundreds of infrastructure projects which were previously funded. These included: the Gold Coast Rapid Transit project stage 1; the Moreton Bay Rail Link; Airportlink; the Pacific Motorway Springwood South to Daisy Hill upgrade; the Gateway Motorway upgrade both north and south; and the Mount Lindesay Highway Brisbane to Beaudesert upgrade.

They spent most of their three years in government cutting the ribbons on Labor projects, at the same time as they stripped \$200 million each and every year from QTRIP, slashed TIDS funding to local government, which local government remembers all too well, and wasted more than \$30 million preparing for contestability and privatisation in Transport and Main Roads—creating a secret branch to do that, instead of spending that on jobs and Queensland road projects. The Palaszczuk government is focusing on projects big and small across the length and breadth of our state to ensure safety and efficiency on our roads, but, importantly also, to support local jobs.