




Speech By
Hon. Mark Bailey

MEMBER FOR YEERONGPILLY

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MINISTERIAL STATEMENT

Department of Transport and Main Roads, Innovation

 **Hon. MC BAILEY** (Yeerongpilly—ALP) (Minister for Main Roads, Road Safety and Ports and Minister for Energy and Water Supply) (10.01 am): The Palaszczuk government is a government focused on new ideas and innovation and, importantly, bridging the gap between great ideas and the jobs they can lead to. The Department of Transport and Main Roads has an ongoing focus on innovation and supports us in this venture from internal research and development, promoting an innovative culture, through to collaborating with external researchers. It is one reason why TMR has shown strong support for the Palaszczuk government's Advance Queensland program.

Advance Queensland provides a range of opportunities for TMR including the discovery of solutions to transport system problems; the discovery of new, or improvement to existing, transport products and services; capacity building in TMR and the transport sector more broadly; and the establishment of new partnerships and collaborations. I can advise the House today that TMR, through the Advance Queensland Innovation Challenges program, has provided a challenge to the Office of the Queensland Chief Scientist. The topic of TMR's challenge is transport solutions which focus on better managing road traffic operations through real-time data. Not only is there the potential to make better use of existing information sources; we may be able to access the wide variety of emerging sources across society.

I would also like to take the opportunity today to congratulate the department on its success at the recent Chartered Institute of Logistics and Transport awards. This included winning the Excellence in Safety Award for the Wide Centre Line Treatment on Queensland Highways project. Members may have already seen that being rolled out on the Bruce Highway and elsewhere where there is a separation of different lanes by a metre—a simple but brilliant idea. The department won the Excellence in Transport Policy, Planning and Implementation Award for the Transport Network Reconstruction Program. This follows TMR also receiving an award at the World Road Association's 25th congress in Seoul, Korea for Mr David Hind's paper titled 'Risk management in action'. It was one of 750 papers submitted worldwide. I congratulate him and our staff on their great achievements. This is an unprecedented achievement, and it confirms TMR's role at the leading edge of risk management in the recovery from natural disasters.

As the Minister for Main Roads and Road Safety, I am proud to work with our staff. Research and development and following innovation opportunities are critical to developing our transport system and meeting future customer needs. The Palaszczuk government recognises and acknowledges the expertise in our Public Service, and TMR is certainly up to the challenge.