




Speech By
Hon. Mark Bailey

MEMBER FOR YEERONGPILLY

Record of Proceedings, 4 December 2015

MINISTERIAL STATEMENT

Road Infrastructure

 **Hon. MC BAILEY** (Yeerongpilly—ALP) (Minister for Main Roads, Road Safety and Ports and Minister for Energy and Water Supply) (9.52 am): The Palaszczuk government hit the ground running after the election and has been delivering for Queenslanders in the areas of roads, ports, energy, water supply and road safety, as promised. We have been actively delivering a whole range of road safety measures, such as double demerit points for repeated mobile phone usage, tougher learner practical driver tests and targeting young drivers with new innovative campaigns in conjunction with young Queenslanders.

The four-year QTRIP program outlines a record \$18.8 billion rolling program over four years. That includes the \$1.1 billion Gateway North Project, expanding the Gateway Motorway to six lanes with the federal government, which will support more than 1,000 jobs. Construction began on the \$74 million Coomera interchange—exit 54—after dithering by the previous government which will create 163 jobs.

Mr Boothman interjected.

Mr BAILEY: The member opposite could not deliver it. He could not deliver it in three years. The contract for the \$1.6 billion Toowoomba Second Range Project has been awarded and work will start in early 2016, with 1,800 jobs. Tenders for the \$189 million Eton Range Realignment Project are closed, with the successful tenderer expected to be announced in late 2015. That means more jobs in regional Queensland. There is an allocation of \$5 million over two years for the Upper Barron Road in Far North Queensland, which means more jobs in Far North Queensland. Construction of the \$200 million Townsville Ring Road Stage 4 commenced in March of this year, to be completed in 2017. Again, that means hundreds of jobs in North Queensland. Work has also commenced on the \$265 million Cape York Region Package, which includes the Peninsula Developmental Road. That means more jobs in regional Queensland.

Of course, upgrade works continue on the Bruce Highway. There is the \$40 million Western Roads Upgrade Program to support communities that have been affected by drought. There is the \$635 million Warrego Highway Upgrade Program, with 210 jobs. There is restored TIDS funding to local government. After years of cuts under the Newman government, there are more regional jobs for roads. Of course, we will be fighting hard for our fair share of federal government funding for the M1 after the previous government signed up last year to zero funding in the national partnership agreement.

We are increasing capacity through the Townsville port through the berth 4 upgrade. There is a \$160 million roads package for the Commonwealth Games, which are legacies for the Gold Coast. We are expediting the Emergency Vehicle Priority program, which is saving the lives of Queenslanders, including on the Sunshine Coast along Kawana Way in preparation for the opening of the Sunshine Coast university hospital.

We are creating jobs in energy as well. We are getting our large-scale solar sector going with our reverse auction process in partnership with ARENA. Large-scale solar is coming to Queensland, which means more jobs of the future. The Ergon EOI process means 150 megawatts of renewable energy, more jobs and industrial batteries. Ergon's battery research is taking advantage of our knowledge and know-how for more jobs for Queenslanders.