




Speech By
Nikki Boyd

MEMBER FOR PINE RIVERS

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APPROPRIATION (PARLIAMENT) BILL; APPROPRIATION BILL

 **Miss BOYD** (Pine Rivers—ALP) (2.30 pm): Today I rise to speak in support of this, the first budget from the Palaszczuk government. This is a budget that focuses on the things that matter to ordinary Queenslanders. The story of this budget is a story of responsible but compassionate government. In my electorate, the centrepiece for this budget is the upgrade of Strathpine train station. I have been an advocate for this as a candidate and also here in this place. The upgrade has focused on accessibility. If we are going to have a train station, we need to ensure that everybody in the community can use it. Currently, Strathpine station's platforms are not independently accessible without the use of stairs. That was illustrated to me recently when I was fortunate enough to go to Strathpine station with Shelly and see firsthand the challenges she and others can face at the station. Shelly relies on a mobility scooter to get around and she wanted to show me the challenges associated with getting around the Strathpine station. I will admit that there were many challenges that I expected to see when I set out with Shelly, but I was alarmed when we inspected the level crossing, which is the only way to cross the three platforms. It was substandard and dangerous. It makes life just that little bit harder than it has to be for people with limited mobility or even for people with wheeled luggage. I am pleased to say that the upgrade will help address that problem and will include a lift for each of the three platforms.

For a station in my part of the world, Strathpine station has a very large number of passenger movements per day. The figure I have been quoted is 12,200 per week. For so many it is a vital artery connecting people to school, university, work, friends, family and recreation. The station is centrally located near major shopping and government offices. It is a vital piece of transport infrastructure in my electorate and will grow in importance with Labor's soon-to-be-delivered Moreton Bay Rail Link. The Palaszczuk government's massive \$15 billion investment in upgrading Strathpine station is a timely investment. Beyond the lifts, there will be new disability car parking upgrades, additional platform shelters, improved toilet facilities, improved lighting, CCTV installed and improved at the station and accessible signage and way-finding tools. In Moreton Bay, this contrasts with another station upgrade where we have seen half-baked improvements from conservatives, such as at Dakabin station. The Dakabin community is crying out to see their station properly upgraded and I am backing my good mate and strong local member for Kallangur, Shane King, in his campaign to clean up the LNP's mess. The Strathpine station upgrade will support around 250 good local trades jobs and materials will be sourced locally wherever possible as well.

As members can tell, I am very excited about this station upgrade, but the station is not all that Pine Rivers gets. Locally, my electorate will see \$14 million in disability services funding, which is money that demonstrates the commitment from the Palaszczuk government to assisting people with disabilities to access support services through different stages in their lives. This funding dovetails very nicely with the station upgrade theme of my speech, as it addresses the point that we need a deeper level of support to ensure universal inclusion in our community life. \$185,000 will be dedicated to family support services to work with vulnerable families to help improve parenting skills and give parents the support

they need to prevent problems from escalating to crisis point. Before in this House I have spoken about my tour of the DVConnect facilities and my concern at the statistics they told me about, so I am very much welcome this funding.

Funding of \$660,000 for community care will provide basic support to assist locals under 65 or Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples under 50 years of age with a disability or condition that restricts their day-to-day living so that they can stay living in their homes. Just shy of \$1 million will be invested locally in child protection for out-of-home-care placement services to ensure children and young people in need of protection are supported and safe. \$367,000 will be invested in Pine Rivers to combat homelessness. This funding will go to non-government organisations to deliver specialist homelessness services aimed at reducing both the number of homeless people and the people at risk of becoming homeless in Queensland by assisting people to obtain housing, maintain their housing and maximise their capability to be independent, self-reliant and connected to appropriate social and community supports.

North Pine Dam is in beautiful Lake Kurwongbah. It has been a major piece of essential infrastructure since 1976. This dam is just shy of 200,000 megalitres and is home to a diverse range of birdlife, sailing and paddle craft enthusiasts and many species of fish, including my personal favourite, the Saratoga. This is essential infrastructure for our region and communities. I look forward to working with Seqwater, particularly on the projects that are funded through this budget. All told, there will be nine upgrade, refurbishment and improvement projects for water infrastructure for the people of Pine Rivers. Our water infrastructure is in desperate need of attention and this budget addresses this. Some examples include the \$647,000 injection to commence the refurbishment and renewal works of the North Pine pump station and \$300,000 will kick off the North Pine spillway bridge upgrade project.

Dayboro, our town of yesteryear, will also be receiving a complete auxiliary fire and rescue station. Although already announced, under the previous government only \$50,000 was ever provided. This budget allocates \$650,000 to complete the replacement and get it done properly. The beautiful Dayboro Showgrounds, used by campers for the annual show, the Dayboro Pony Club, the Dayboro Trail Riders Club and the Dayboro Rodeo, will benefit from \$367,000 for the Dayboro Showgrounds flood mitigation project. This is a capital infrastructure program for identified community needs, as well as for flood mitigation projects, flood mapping and other resilience measures.

The budget also funds \$637,000 for the Aussie rules football field already announced in Brendale. Located at the South Pine Sports Complex, it is a major facility for the Hawks. The field construction will include a full-sized AFL field with irrigation, lighting, multi-user clubhouse, storage, meeting and office space, kitchen and canteen, function room, ancillaries and gymnasium, access road, car park and footpaths.

Labor builds things and Labor is about fairness. It is just our values. It is who we are and, importantly, it is what this budget is all about. For the people of Pine Rivers, this budget is about key service delivery and making sure our community needs are met. I commend the bills to the House.