



Speech By  
**Christopher Whiting**


**MEMBER FOR MURRUMBA**

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Record of Proceedings, 26 May 2016

**PRIVATE MEMBER'S STATEMENT**

**Murrumba Electorate, Infrastructure**

 **Mr WHITING** (Murrumba—ALP) (2.49 pm): I rise to talk about two wonderful pieces of local infrastructure that are being delivered or funded by the Palaszczuk government in the electorate of Murrumba. I was delighted to recently attend the sod turning at the Boundary Road interchange over the highway with the member for Kallangur. This is a huge piece of infrastructure for us: a \$100 million project including \$20 million in funding from the Palaszczuk government. It will be a six-lane bridge, and a shared pathway will soon be built across the Bruce Highway. Preliminary work has already begun. It will take two years to finish the project and it will create 160 full-time jobs during construction. The current interchange carries 20,000 vehicles per day and is the scene of significant congestion.

Recently, members heard me talk about the Rothwell roundabout. The Palaszczuk government and the Minister for Main Roads really have come through here in a big way. We will provide funding of \$22.6 million to upgrade this vital intersection. We are stepping up to do this after the project's viability was threatened by funding withdrawal from the federal LNP. The Abbott and Turnbull governments originally stepped away from funding this project and then delivered only half the funding they had once promised. This upgrade would not have happened without a commitment to local infrastructure from the Palaszczuk government. I am very proud of what we have delivered.

Do members know what makes me even more proud? We do not have to sell assets to get them! These are only two of the infrastructure projects that the LNP said they would only ever deliver if they sold assets. The LNP Campbell Newman government said they would fund the Rothwell roundabout and Boundary Road projects, but it was reliant on them returning LNP members and accepting the sell-off of our local assets.

**Mr Harper:** Bribery!

**Mr WHITING:** Electoral bribery! I predict that at the next election if there are promised projects in our local community they will only be possible through their own proposed sale of assets. These two local projects show that the LNP has no plan to deliver infrastructure without resorting to asset sales. Getting rid of government assets is in their DNA, and that is why the member for Clayfield will refuse to rule out asset sales. He was the architect of Strong Choices and he has invested \$100 million of public money. He is not going to let this go.

To those members opposite who have accepted the member for Clayfield as their leader on the basis that he has abandoned asset sales, you have been let down. That policy carcass has returned, and we will be hanging that albatross around their neck every day to remind people that a vote for them is a vote to sell our assets. Whenever the LNP stand up and deliver a policy the rest of Queensland will be asking, 'Do you have to sell off our assets to do it?'