




Speech By  
**Linus Power**  
**MEMBER FOR LOGAN**

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Record of Proceedings, 13 September 2016

**MOTION: ROAD INFRASTRUCTURE, FEDERAL FUNDING**

 **Mr POWER** (Logan—ALP) (5.48 pm): I rise to speak in support of the motion moved by the Minister for Main Roads because this House simply asks—and I hope that the opposition agrees—that the Australian government plays its part in the development of Queensland and that it applies the same rules that it applies in northern New South Wales for the M1, which is 80-20 funding support from the Australian government for the M1.

Mr Speaker, as you may know and as the minister certainly knows, my passion is for continual funding for the Mount Lindesay Highway. We see funding for the Camp Cable Road intersection and also for the Beaudesert bypass. They are great projects initiated after years of inaction under the LNP. However, if the Australian government does not play its part on the M1, that means there is less money in the pool to go around to fund other projects within Queensland.

Every LNP member who speaks about another road project who does not support 80-20 on the M1 needs to be silent when it comes to funding on their road projects. Unfortunately, the minister will not have me silenced because I will be supporting 80-20 funding on the M1 and I will not be silenced when it comes to further funding on the Mount Lindesay Highway.

I grew up in the shadow of the M1. When it was being constructed, I played in the dirt of the bulldozers used to build it. I rode my red bike—it was not a tricycle—on the road on weekends as it was being completed. I did not at that stage realise what an important artery this would be to connect Queensland to other states and cities. I did not have the full understanding, as I do now, that the M1, through its connections to the Logan Motorway, connects northern New South Wales and other states to the west, to the people in Lockyer and Toowoomba; it connects all of Queensland and is a vital project.

I turn to the amendment that has been put forward. One of the things I note is that there is a little bit of boastfulness that ‘we note the LNP experience in negotiating and delivering’. They have effectively told the House that they are on strike, that they refuse to get the participation of the federal government until they get their way. They do not want the best for Queensland. They want to spoil it for Queensland. They want to actually participate in this game being played by the national government. If we want to look at their experience in negotiating, let’s look at a few quotes. We know that Warren Truss said—

The Australian Government—

and they said this very proudly—

has re-introduced the traditional 80:20 funding split for new road and rail projects on the national network ...

He said that really clearly. He did it in New South Wales. We are not seeing it in Queensland. Considering their experience in negotiation, let us have a look at some of the things they said. We saw Bert van Manen. What did his experience in negotiation achieve when he wanted to get funding for the M1 past Beenleigh, which I know the member for Waterford—

**Mr SPEAKER:** Member for Logan, one moment. Pause the clock. I know you are on a roll. Member for Mudgeeraba, you have not stopped interjecting since your contribution.

**A government member:** Throw her out.

**Mr SPEAKER:** I will throw you out if you continue.

**Mr POWER:** The advanced negotiator of the LNP, Bert van Manen, said—

While projects like the Bruce Highway and Toowoomba Range Crossing have had 80/20 funding splits—

he admitted it—

they are major freight corridors and the M1 highway is a commuter road and urban congestion is—

not a federal responsibility. That is their negotiating style. That is what the LNP does to negotiate: concede at the first hurdle.

What does Steve Ciobo have to say? When he was asked by the *Gold Coast Bulletin* he admitted that he did not even know the funding formula. He stated—

'To be honest you would need to direct that question to the Transport Minister,' Mr Ciobo replied. 'He's the man that has knowledge about all road projects.

This is the key road through his electorate. This shows that the LNP, the key negotiators in this, have no idea.

Lastly, let us have a look at Mr Andrew Laming, federal MP. Steve Austin asked, 'Andrew, why is the coalition, your mob, trying to screw the Queensland state government over funding on the M1 upgrade?' Andrew Laming replied, 'Because they deserve it. This is the Queensland government.' These are the negotiators who are supposed to stand up for Queensland. The reality is they are on strike. They refuse to stand up for Queensland. This motion urges them to do the right thing.