




Speech By
Hon. Mark Bailey

MEMBER FOR YEERONGPILLY

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MINISTERIAL STATEMENTS

Budget, Roads

 **Hon. MC BAILEY** (Yeerongpilly—ALP) (Minister for Main Roads, Road Safety and Ports and Minister for Energy, Biofuels and Water Supply) (2.34 pm): Yesterday we released a record funding investment for roads and transport infrastructure, investing \$20 billion over four years, as outlined in our Queensland Transport and Roads Investment Program, otherwise known as QTRIP. As part of this, QTRIP outlines \$15.2 billion of planned investment in road infrastructure over the next four years, supporting an estimated 12,000 direct jobs over the life of the program.

We are building and upgrading roads all across our vast state to improve safety, reduce congestion, improve connectivity and, importantly, create jobs. Our budget investment into roads and transport has been well received and welcomed by important stakeholders such as the RACQ and the Local Government Association of Queensland. In fact, the RACQ Executive Manager of Public Policy, Michael Roth, said, 'The Palaszczuk government's QTRIP has been boosted to \$20 billion over four years, up six per cent on last year, and the State Infrastructure Fund has increased to \$2 billion, which is good news for future infrastructure projects.'

The Local Government Association of Queensland backed our budget boost to Transport and Main Roads by stating in their media release issued today that our \$90 million investment in the TIDS program—the Transport Infrastructure Development Scheme—fifty-fifty with local government is one of the most important features of the state government as it locks in funding for the entire Queensland local government term and gives councils the certainty they need to accelerate vital local road projects.

We are also investing in a number of important road projects across the state. This includes: \$200 million to six lane the Ipswich Motorway between Darra and Rocklea, stage 1; \$96.5 million for projects in North Queensland including \$76.9 million for the Gregory Developmental Road, including the Cape River bridge and \$19.6 million to progressively seal the Hann Highway in north-west Queensland; \$40 million for a timber bridge replacement package on the Dawson Highway from Gladstone to Biloela to assist our heavy vehicle industry and productivity; \$30 million for duplication of Riverway Drive in Townsville from Gollogly Lane to Allambie Lane—and I am sure the member for Thuringowa was very pleased to see that.

Mr Harper: Hear, hear!

Mr BAILEY: Thank you. There is also \$22 million for the Sunshine Coast University Hospital intersection upgrades package at Kawana Way and Nicklin Way, getting on with projects ignored for three years by the Nicholls-Newman government; \$10 million for the Rockhampton road train access stage 1; and we have also created another \$10 million for the Transport and Tourism Connections program to provide access to tourist sites and culturally significant sites to dovetail with our pro-tourism commitments right across government. We will also continue to progress the \$8.5 billion program to fix

the Bruce Highway, jointly funded by the federal and state governments, as well as continuing our two-year \$40 million western roads program and our \$160 million commitment to the Gold Coast for the Commonwealth Games—a very good project.

We are making a record investment in Queensland roads in this state budget. We are committed to ensuring that our vast road network supports our industries, our changing regions and cities and creates the jobs for Queenslanders.