



Speech By  
**Mark Furner**


**MEMBER FOR FERNY GROVE**

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Record of Proceedings, 17 March 2016

**PRIVATE MEMBER'S STATEMENT**

**Samford to Ferny Grove Cycle Link**

 **Mr FURNER** (Ferny Grove—ALP) (2.54 pm): I rise this afternoon to make a contribution to this debate and it relates to an activity on the weekend. On Saturday, 12 March I was privileged to join Minister for Main Roads, Road Safety and Ports and Minister for Energy and Water Supply, the Hon. Mark Bailey, in opening stage 1 of the Samford to Ferny Grove Cycle Link. Also present were Doug Wass, North Coast District Director from the Department of Transport and Main Roads, and Andrew Demack, the Cycling Development Officer from Bicycle Queensland.

Stage 1 of the Samford to Ferny Grove Cycle Link, costing \$3.5 million, between Ferny Grove Railway Station and Petersen Road in Samford has instantly proven to be a success, with locals either end of the link demonstrating their patronage. This cycle link also highlights our commitment to continual investment of infrastructure in our state, consistent with our State Infrastructure Plan. Stage 1 of the cycle link runs between the Ferny Grove Railway Station and Petersen Road, Samford, travelling along Lanita Road to connect with Samford State Forest. It then follows a 1.5-kilometre path through the forest to connect with McLean Road, where it travels north via a section of the old rail corridor to connect with Petersen Road.

Once completed, the cycle link will provide a new 8.3-kilometre cycle path between the Ferny Grove Railway Station and Samford Village. This is a shared path with recreational bike riders and horseriders using various sections of the path, in addition to pedestrian traffic who will use it quite often. In fact, on the weekend there were copious numbers of people out walking, riding horses and riding bikes along the cycle way. I must put on the record my appreciation and thanks to Electric Bikes Brisbane from Enoggera for bringing along some of their cycles to use. They got me on one of those. The only thing they could not get me into was a set of lycra, thank goodness!

**Ms Pease:** Thank God!

**Mr FURNER:** I agree. I take that interjection. I am so proud to be a part of a Labor government that recognises the need to provide cycle infrastructure in Queensland. The link between Ferny Grove and Samford has already received quite a bit of use over the past fortnight. It was great to see so many people out at the official opening to try it out.

During the construction I had an opportunity to meet some of the contractors and workers, including Camp Mountain local Michael Burtwistle, who are benefiting from the jobs created by this infrastructure project. As the local member, I am encouraging all users from horseriders to bike riders to use and enjoy the outdoors and this new facility.

In closing, I would like to put on the record the commitment and foresight of former member for Ferny Grove Geoff Wilson, who had the vision of starting the discussion and planning of this cycle link as far back as 2009 in collaboration with the local council at the time. The proof of the pudding was there to see last Saturday, with many, many people using this cycleway. It is another demonstration of a Labor Party commitment.