




Speech By
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MEMBER FOR TOOWOOMBA SOUTH

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MOTION: ROAD INFRASTRUCTURE

 **Mr JANETZKI** (Toowoomba South—LNP) (6.11 pm): This week is my first budget week and there have been a few surprises on offer. The first surprise in this budget week did not come as a surprise, and it was the lack of economic management and vision on display in yesterday's budget. One thing that did come as a surprise was the craven pork-barrelling in yesterday's budget. The craven pork-barrelling saw the south-east corner, and in particular the Cross River Rail project, come at the expense of the true economic wonder of the nation at the moment—Toowoomba and the Darling Downs. I do not think the Labor Party have any interest whatsoever in funding road infrastructure in Toowoomba and the Darling Downs, as the shadow minister has already described. We have \$564 million in road funding this year in the budget. Next year, with the slash of the pen, we have lost a quarter of that government spending and we are back to \$430 million in road infrastructure spending in Toowoomba.

It was an interesting juxtaposition last night when, at the same time as the Treasurer was withdrawing road infrastructure spending, we saw at the Brisbane West Wellcamp Airport the launch of Tourism Darling Downs. Once again, we see the Wagner family and the Toowoomba business community acting. Regardless of what the Labor government may or may not be doing, they act in the best interests of our region. I can assure the House that the LNP will stand shoulder to shoulder with Toowoomba's business community, regardless of what this Labor government does, as we have done for generations.

At this point, it is probably helpful to look at the track record of the LNP when we were in government. We delivered a \$45 million inner-city bypass right through the centre of Toowoomba. We delivered flood mitigation up and down East and West creeks right through the city because we have seen how Toowoomba can flood. That flood mitigation was from Dent Street all the way down East and West creeks. There were Warrego Highway upgrades from the Lockyer Valley right through Toowoomba to Kingsthorpe, Charlton, Oakey and out to Dalby in the fine electorate of Condamine. There was the upgrade to Omara Road and Toowoomba Cecil Plains Road. This is the epicentre of what is happening in Toowoomba—the great industrial development of our region. I also mention the intersection of the Gore, New England and Warrego highways, the site of the Brisbane West Wellcamp Airport and the Steel Mississippi or the Steel Murray, the inland rail. Those road upgrades have made those projects possible. Of course there is the jewel in the crown—the \$1.6 billion second range crossing. This showed once and for all that the project can be done. In particular, it showed what can be achieved when a local government, a state LNP government and a coalition government work in conjunction.

Yesterday the Labor government were talking about supporting 4,300 jobs across Darling Downs. I am not quite sure where they plucked that figure from; I am not sure which rabbit hole they went down to pluck that figure from. Let us face it. There is only one job the Labor Party care about in Toowoomba, and that is the job of their old mate, Kerry Shine. The former member for Toowoomba North and the Toowoomba North candidate talked and talked and talked. He talked about the second range crossing.

Mr Watts interjected.

Mr SPEAKER: Pause the clock. Member for Toowoomba North, you have a very loud voice. I would urge you not to try to disrupt the current speaker, the member for Toowoomba South.

Mr JANETZKI: I will take the interjection from my good friend, the member for Toowoomba North. Unlike the current member for Toowoomba North, all that Kerry Shine achieved for a decade was talk—just talk. We know that the Labor government stitched us up last night in the budget, and it is not just me saying this. The TSBE executive chairman, Shane Charles, called this Brisbane-centric. Last night I was in touch with the Toowoomba Regional Council Mayor, Paul Antonio. He is very unhappy that the flood mitigation on East and West creeks has still not been funded by this government and that accessibility to the Brisbane West Wellcamp Airport remains unfunded. In my contact with the mayor last night, he knows and I know that Toowoomba is a proud city. It was built on the hard work and innovation of entrepreneurial businesses from across the region. They have Toowoomba at their heart. This Labor government, through their craven pork-barrelling and funding failures, have again confirmed that they will never understand the Toowoomba spirit, they will never understand what drives Toowoomba business and they will never understand our electorate. The sooner we have an election and let the LNP get on with the job, the better.