



Speech By  
**Joseph Kelly**


**MEMBER FOR GREENSLOPES**

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Record of Proceedings, 11 May 2017

**PRIVATE MEMBERS' STATEMENTS**

**Derrick, Mrs J; Public Transport; Cross River Rail**

 **Mr KELLY** (Greenslopes—ALP) (3.04 pm): I would like to start by paying tribute to one of my constituents, Mrs June Derrick. June was a great unionist who fought all her life for workers' rights. She was a union delegate and now, 30 years or so after she retired, she is still out there fighting for her community. She recently saw a need in our community. June decided that she needed a go card reading machine closer to her house so she mobilised her community. She sat at the local shops with a petition for weeks—in fact, months on end—and gathered thousands and thousands of signatures. One night when I was there doing my shopping June gathered me to her petition and to her cause. I am so pleased that she brought me into her fight, because we were able to deliver that go card machine. I would like to thank the Deputy Premier for her assistance in achieving that. I know that June is very happy with the outcome, and I know that many of the people who signed the petition have contacted my office and thanked us for the machine that is now there.

It speaks to the broader achievements of the Palaszczuk Labor government in relation to public and active transport. I have been a user of public transport for 30 years, and I have seen significant improvements—in fact, a revolution—in public transport here in Brisbane in that time. In my electorate I am very proud of our achievements over the last few years such as safer pedestrian access to schools and colleges like Loreto College and improved facilities for people with disabilities, with increased disability parking spaces at busways in Holland Park West. When I go down to the end of my street I see thousands and thousands of people cycling, and they are cycling along a space that within a few months will become Veloway 1. When I ask those cyclists why they cycle they say, 'Because it's fun, it's free, it's easy, it's safe and it's environmentally healthy.' The best thing they say to me—and the thing that I am most happy about on the day before International Nurses Day—is that it is healthy. When Veloway 1 is finished it will be free, easy, safe, fun, environmentally friendly and healthy, and a lot easier to get into town and a lot easier to get to work and study. The Fairer Fares project is another project that people in my electorate have welcomed, but there is much, much more to do.

Cross River Rail has been identified as the No. 1 infrastructure project by Infrastructure Australia. This is an important project. The people in my electorate are certainly very supportive of it. You can imagine the disappointment amongst my constituents when Tuesday night's federal budget had nothing in it at all for the Cross River Rail project. The constituents in my electorate understand that this is important not just for our electorate but for our entire state. I am going to take my inspiration from June Derrick. I am going to listen to my community and work with my community, and we are going to fight for this vital piece of infrastructure for the people of my electorate, for the entire state and for our future.