




Speech By
Linus Power

MEMBER FOR LOGAN

Record of Proceedings, 16 February 2017

PETITIONS

Motion to Take Note

 **Mr POWER** (Logan—ALP) (11.50 am): The Palaszczuk government is getting on with the job of planning and delivering upgrades for the M1. We have submitted updated business cases for the M1 to M3 merge project and the Mudgeeraba to Varsity Lakes project to the Australian government and Infrastructure Australia. We have committed our fair share of funding to these projects—that is, \$42 million towards the M1-Gateway Motorway merge upgrade project and \$44 million towards the six-laning works between Mudgeeraba and Varsity Lakes. We are already funding and working on the planning for the future upgrade of the Varsity Lakes to Tugun section. We have invested \$1.48 million for the preliminary evaluation of the M1 Varsity Lakes to Tugun upgrade to be finalised later this year.

Right across the state the Palaszczuk Labor government has been making up for three years of inaction on roads and transport that we saw under the Newman-Nicholls government. They cut \$600 million from transport funding—money that could have gone a long way towards a whole range of projects. In my own area the Mount Lindesay Highway is a very good example. Over the last two state budgets the Palaszczuk government has committed \$35 million to projects on the highway, and we are still working to identify projects that will deliver the best improvements with the funding available. We are part way through a \$790,000 planning project. This level of investment dwarfs—and the member for Beaudesert knows this—what the former government invested.

I turn to the petition submitted. I would like to thank every single petitioner for putting their name to the important economic and safety project of improving Queensland roads. However, what if every petitioner knew the full facts about the LNP and Queensland roads? What would everyone who signed that petition say if they knew that in the last government every single member of the Gold Coast voted for budgets that cut \$600 million over three years from the transport funding? They would condemn the LNP members.

What would all of these petitioners say if they knew that at the last federal election when we were looking for federal funding the Gold Coast members were silent—complicit with the federal LNP failing to back the M1? What would they do? They would condemn the member for Burleigh and the member for Currumbin for their inaction and silence. What if they were told that the LNP members' own actions and failure to act had added to—and I quote from the petition—'daily traffic delays costing local families and businesses significantly'? Every single petitioner, if they knew the cynicism and hypocrisy of the Gold Coast LNP members, would condemn them. I applaud the minister for his passion for the roads of Queensland connecting the communities of Queensland. I only wish at the last federal election his passionate voice for funding for the M1 had been joined by those on the other side who pretend to be a friend of the M1. They were silent.

(Time expired)