




Speech By  
**Linus Power**

**MEMBER FOR LOGAN**

---

Record of Proceedings, 16 June 2017

**APPROPRIATION (PARLIAMENT) BILL; APPROPRIATION BILL; REVENUE  
LEGISLATION AMENDMENT BILL**

 **Mr POWER** (Logan—ALP) (9.10 pm): It is always a pleasure to speak after the member for Ashgrove and future member for Cooper. I know that she is really passionate about the investment we are making in the Yarrabilba State School this year. I look forward to being with her at the opening of the school. I also acknowledge her interest in higher education in the area. We will continue to have that conversation.

I rise to speak in support of the appropriation bills for 2017. Disappointingly, last night in this place the member for Beaudesert made very serious accusations against me regarding the funding for the Mount Lindesay Highway. I took this very seriously, for is not the honourable member for Beaudesert an honourable man? He said that I had misled the House when it came to my statement that the three years of the Palaszczuk Labor government had budgeted for 10 times as much new spending as the former Newman-Nicholls government. That was the government of which the member for Beaudesert was a member and of which the member for Clayfield was the treasurer. Page 1756 of *Hansard* shows the member for Beaudesert claiming—

... the LNP budgeted and delivered and allocated at least \$25 million—

you always have to be suspicious of a budget claim when it is 'at least'—

for the Beaudesert Town Bypass project ...

He also said that I should look up my history properly. I was shocked and concerned for I did not wish to mislead the House, so I did as instructed by the member for Beaudesert and I had a look at the history. Firstly, if the Beaudesert bypass was truly 'budgeted and delivered and allocated' then every member of this House would expect it to appear in budget documents. After all, the member for Beaudesert would surely not mislead the House! I dug up the 2014-15 QTRIP statement and found nothing for the Beaudesert bypass.

In his speech last night the member for Beaudesert suggested that we have 'trouble dealing with numbers'; however, as the Minister for Main Roads knows well, the number the member is looking for is not in QTRIP. If the member for Beaudesert cannot read the numbers then the *Beaudesert Times*, his local newspaper, can help him out. On 6 June 2014 the *Beaudesert Times* read 'Queensland budget 2014: Beaudesert bypass misses out on funding'. For the benefit of the member for Beaudesert, I table the article so he can understand it.

*Tabled paper:* Article from the *Beaudesert Times*, date 6 June 2014, titled 'Queensland Budget 2014: Beaudesert bypass misses out on funding' [[1036](#)].

If it was not in the last Newman-Nicholls budget—if the member for Clayfield did not care about it—then it could not possibly be 'budgeted and delivered and allocated'.

What could the member for Beaudesert mean? Could he mean this press release from the member for Callide well after the budget? This October 2016 press release does reference a Beaudesert bypass, but does it meet the member for Beaudesert's test that this project was 'budgeted and delivered and allocated'? In the press release the member for Callide uses the most woolly and vague language about the funding. The press release states—

... we will partner with the Scenic Rim Regional Council, the Department of Transport and Main Roads, Mirvac and Eureka Funds Management to fund the Beaudesert Town Bypass.

No-one could make the claim that that was 'budgeted and delivered and allocated'. On the same day the member for Beaudesert made a statement in the House on the project. He claimed that the bypass 'will be funded'—as in, 'It will be done at some time in the future after we stitch up a few vague deals with multiple partners who have not agreed to anything.' No reasonable person would claim that this meant 'budgeted and delivered and allocated'. From reading the member's statement we get further evidence of how the project would eventually be budgeted for. I quote the member for Beaudesert explaining how the Beaudesert bypass might be funded. He said—

Utilising proceeds from the lease of some state assets to remove this cost from small business is just like a farmer leasing a spare paddock ...

He stated further—

It is the strongest option to free up—

by this he means sell off for 50 years—

that \$1.3 billion ...

He went on—

That is the equivalent of 52 Beaudesert town bypasses.

From looking at the history it is clear that there was no budget, no allocation and certainly no delivery of the Beaudesert bypass. Instead, the member relied upon a yet-to-be-worked-out contribution from multiple contributors—

**Opposition members** interjected.

**Madam DEPUTY SPEAKER** (Ms Farmer): Order! Members on my left, you are being disruptive. If it continues I will have to issue a warning.

**Mr POWER:** I can understand why they are embarrassed by this. It also relied on the future sell-off for 50 years of state assets to the value of 52 times the cost of the bypass. No reasonable person could claim the project was 'budgeted and delivered and allocated'. Instead, it is the member for Yeerongpilly and Minister for Main Roads who budgeted and allocated and is currently delivering. He is doing it without selling off assets. It is this government that delivers for the Mount Lindesay Highway. I anticipate that the member for Beaudesert will promptly apologise to the House. Anything else would be, as he said, a con job.

When it comes to the Mount Lindesay Highway north of Beaudesert we are delivering 10 times as much as the last government. I will keep fighting for more, but there are some positive projects. When the member for Yeerongpilly was returning from Beaudesert, where he had just announced the contract on the Beaudesert bypass, he took the time to see the details of the intersections on the Mount Lindesay Highway—the recently completed Camp Cable Road intersection upgrade but also other intersections. The minister and I walked the St Aldwyn Road intersection and Greenbank Road intersection. That is why when the opportunity arose the minister could recently announce that the service road between Chambers Flat opposite Greenbank Road through St Aldwyn all the way to opposite Greenbank Road would be upgraded and the Greenbank Road intersection upgraded.

In Logan we keenly feel every accident that happens on our roads, especially the recent accident at St Aldwyn Road. The funding cannot come soon enough to make this road safer. I am also working with TMR to make sure that St Aldwyn and Olley's country market are as safe and convenient as we can make them. Close to 4,000 people have signed the petition to advocate for this service. I am on their side. I know that the Minister for Main Roads is listening to them, too.

Even better is the announcement of funding for four-laning from the end of the four lanes at Rosia Road through to the Granger Road and Stoney Camp Road intersections. This means that drivers heading south—

**Mr Cramp** interjected.

**Madam DEPUTY SPEAKER:** Order! Member for Gaven, I warn you under standing order 253A.

**Mr POWER:** They do not like to hear about great road projects. This means that drivers heading south will no longer need to merge together then weave away to exit if they are using Granger Road or Stoney Camp Road. This makes this section of the road safer and faster. There is much more to fund on the Mount Lindesay Highway. I apologise to the minister, but I will continue to push for more funding at every opportunity.

Further, I have campaigned hard for extra funds for the Waterford-Tamborine Road. In the member for Clayfield's last budget, the one that Queenslanders so completely rejected, there was little funding for the Waterford-Tamborine Road. With local councillors—here I recognise Councillor Laurie Koranski and Mayor Luke Smith—we pushed for better roads to cope with the growth in Yarrabilba. The minister listened and brought forward the \$40 million in funding and now in the budget has announced \$8 million in new extra funding to upgrade the North Street intersection. It is a key bottleneck as the roundabout fails to cope with the traffic from the main road and the two side roads. This is vital, and the community consultation and design should begin immediately. The upgrade will reduce congestion at this bottleneck.

There are positive investments in our local state roads, but with them being ignored by the LNP for three years we need to play catch-up and continue to fund them. That is what I will be fighting for. This budget does not just deliver for roads, even though I have spoken extensively about roads in Logan; it is a strong budget that can still invest in the vital services that our growing areas of Logan and the growing families in Logan need.

Recent Tropical Cyclone Debbie floods hit Logan families hard. The farms, businesses and family homes will take some time to recover. It is estimated that the cyclone will cost the Queensland budget, but the state budget is still robust and it will stand with Queenslanders in need, and this budget accounts for the cost of supporting Queenslanders in need. People in Logan know that they live in a state where mates do not let their mates down. Recently I was with the Treasurer in Logan as he visited an innovative Dutch company, Vadain, that had chosen to set up a new factory, employing 40 people making high-quality curtains—an innovative company well matched with the innovative Logan community. Later that day I also attended the mayor's Logan Innovation Summit. I know that when the Treasurer drafted this budget he had in mind the hard workers of Logan, the innovation of Logan, the future of Logan. I feel confident that we should support the Appropriation Bill. Madam Deputy Speaker, I seek leave to have the remainder of my speech incorporated in *Hansard*.

Leave granted.

Mr Speaker our schools in Logan are vital as families seeking a great education for their children settle in Logan. We are investing in that great education. The Yarrabilba Primary School was brought forward recently when both the Premier and Minister Kate Jones visited the Yarrabilba site. This budget completes this funding for the construction of the school.

It also delivers the funding for Special Education building and classrooms for the Flagstone Community College, refurbishing the Library at Browns Plains State School, pathways and ramps for the Regents Park State School Education Program and a refurbishment of Block B at Jimboomba State School. I'll continue to put on the agenda the future Yarrabilba High School which is so vital for the Yarrabilba and Logan Village area.

It isn't just the physical infrastructure; this budget delivers 3095 more teachers than when we formed this government and in a new announcement this budget delivers extra funding to ensure that every prep class will have a full-time Prep teacher. As the father of an excited and curious recent Prep graduate I wholeheartedly support this policy that improves the educational outcomes in this critical foundation year.

Mr Speaker Logan Families want their families to be healthy. This budget invests in our health services, funds the Community Health Action Plan, continues to fund the expanded Emergency Department and funds the Logan Hospital car park with 500 new car spaces to make it easier to access the Hospital.

Mr Speaker this budget funds the city defining Cross-River Rail project. Some mistakenly see this as only an inner city project but nothing could be further from reality. It delivers great benefits for Logan. Faster travel on the Beenleigh line but also it paves the way for the line that will serve Flagstone and Greenbank a vital future project that simply cannot be realised without the extra river crossing that the Cross River Rail project delivers.

Mr Speaker this is a budget that delivers for jobs in Logan. In 2017-18 there will be significant investment in infrastructure including the Logan Motorway Enhancement project that delivers the flyover for traffic going from the Mt Lindesay to the Gateway and underpass for traffic going from Brisbane to Ipswich so that northbound traffic from Logan can proceed north without traffic crossing the Mt Lindesay Highway. Vital is the duplication of Wembley Rd which will drive jobs not just in construction but also drive local jobs because of better local connections. This budget continues to invest in the Skilling Queenslanders for Work program that has such a strong return for the state and for job seekers.

The budget makes clear there was a net operating surplus of \$2.8 billion in 2016-17, the largest surplus since 2005-06, which will strengthen the ability of this government to invest in future infrastructure. The forecasts show that economic growth will continue to rise.

Mr Speaker Logan continues to be a place of hard work, of strong families of new developing areas. This budget shows a government that backs the Logan community with investments in our roads, our schools, better health and provides the platform for jobs growth.

I commend the bill to the House.