




Speech By
Hon. Mark Bailey

MEMBER FOR YEERONGPILLY

Record of Proceedings, 15 February 2017

PRIVATE MEMBER'S STATEMENT

Regional Queensland, Roads

 **Hon. MC BAILEY** (Yeerongpilly—ALP) (Minister for Main Roads, Road Safety and Ports and Minister for Energy, Biofuels and Water Supply) (2.58 pm): What a narcoleptic effort from the member for Nanango. Is that the best that they can do? Under Labor, we see a commitment to regional Queensland. Let us look at the record of the member for cosy Clayfield when it comes to regional Queensland. When he was the treasurer of this state, he cut \$600 million from regional roads. Every year, \$200 million was cut from the roads budget by the cosy member for Clayfield, who was very comfy over there in Ascot. When it comes to selling roads out in the regions, One Nation is out in LNP territory taking bites off them left, right and centre. The issue of regional roads is being raised because the LNP is splitting all over the place. Look at the member for Buderim.

What has Labor done in terms of regional roads? The first thing is that we did not rat on regional roads like the cosy member for Clayfield did. We restored the TIDS funding and worked with local government. We are undertaking the western roads upgrade, the Peninsula Developmental Road upgrade, the Bruce Highway upgrade south of Cairns, and the Bill Fulton Bridge upgrade in the member Barron River's electorate. We started and finished the Townsville Ring Road and the Yellow Gin Bridge on the Bruce Highway. We have completed the planning for the Houghton flood plain that those opposite did not do. We have completed the Flinders Highway upgrade and the Sandy Gully Bridge. The Rocky beef road in Central Queensland is almost done.

Kawana Way on the Sunshine Coast is nearly done after those opposite did nothing for three years. We have undertaken the Bruce Highway upgrades on the Sunshine Coast. Anyone who goes to Maryborough along the Bruce Highway would know that there are roadworks everywhere. There is so much work going on, including at the Tinana interchange. Exit 54 on the Gold Coast has been completed. The LNP had a record majority and they did nothing. We started it and we finished it. We are also doing the Commonwealth Games.

The year 2017 is going to be a huge year on the regional roads front. The Urraween Road intersection is starting this month. The member for Hervey Bay did not achieve that in three years. The Dawson Highway will see timber bridge replacements. The Mackay ring-road project will see 600 jobs in North Queensland. We will also undertake the Vines Creek bridges replacement project that the member for Mackay got started.

The Riverway Drive project in Townsville will result in 60 jobs and will cost \$30 million. Other projects include the Eton Range realignment, Peak Downs Highway timber bridge replacements, the Cape River Bridge and the Gregory Developmental Road. We are continuing the Warrego Highway upgrade.

We are working with local government hand in glove on regional roads. The biggest complaint I got from them when I started as minister was how much was cut by the member for Clayfield. We are working with local government. We are not going to be cosy like the member for the Clayfield. We are not going to rat on regional roads like he did.