



Speech By  
**Hon. Mark Bailey**


**MEMBER FOR YEERONGPILLY**

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## MINISTERIAL STATEMENTS

### Ipswich Motorway, Upgrade

 **Hon. MC BAILEY** (Yeerongpilly—ALP) (Minister for Main Roads, Road Safety and Ports and Minister for Energy, Biofuels and Water Supply) (2.31 pm): One of South-East Queensland's most significant road projects is the \$400 million Ipswich Motorway upgrade from Rocklea to Darra stage 1. It is on track, with a tender for design and construction to be awarded within months. Early works have been underway since late last year and two shortlisted tenderers are vying for the contract: BMD Constructions Pty Ltd and John Holland Queensland Pty Ltd Joint Venture; and Bielby Hull Albem Joint Venture. Major construction is due to start later this year.

This is a significant joint state and federal government initiative; each have committed \$200 million. The project will provide 470 jobs for Queenslanders during construction. It is the Palaszczuk government who has delivered the overdue funding upgrade that Ipswich motorists have needed after three years of inaction by the previous majority government. Those opposite did nothing for Ipswich. This project will deliver a value-for-money solution, upgrading three kilometres of motorway between Granard Road and Oxley Road from four to six lanes. This is the next most critical section of the remaining seven kilometres of the Ipswich Motorway still to be upgraded.

The works will involve: raising the motorway bridges across Oxley Creek to improve flood immunity; a new southern service connection road from the Rocklea industrial precinct to the Oxley commercial retail areas; a new northern service road connection over the Oxley Creek flood plain; and new traffic signals at Suscatand Street. On completion the upgrade will provide safer, quicker and more reliable journeys for motorists and, importantly, will improve freight productivity. In short, it will combat congestion for 85,000 road users, including 12,000 freight vehicles.

I would like to thank the local MPs who have advocated for, and delivered, this project. The Premier, the members for Ipswich, Ipswich West, Bundamba and Sunnybank have all strongly advocated and delivered something that the previous government ignored for three years. This was acknowledged this morning, and I will quote from an article in the business section of the *Courier-Mail* which states—

Queensland's road infrastructure sector is reviving quicker than expected, according to construction and engineer outfit Seymour Whyte.

...

He cited tenders for projects such as a merge of the M1-M3-Gateway in Queensland's southeast, an upgrade to the Ipswich Motorway between Rocklea and Darra, and the Mackay ring road. His comments come as engineering industry sources say Queensland is recovering from its mining-bust slump.

**Mr Emerson** interjected.

**Mr BAILEY:** I hear the interjections from the member for Indooroopilly, who cut \$600 million from roads in Queensland over three years. What a disgrace you are—the Andrew Peacock of Queensland politics. We are getting on with it. We are creating jobs. We are getting freight moving. The member for Indooroopilly, the Andrew Peacock of Queensland politics, can interject all he likes—

**Mr SPEAKER:** Minister, will you withdraw that comment, please.

**Mr BAILEY:** I withdraw.