




Speech By
Hon. Mark Bailey

MEMBER FOR YEERONGPILLY

Record of Proceedings, 14 June 2017

MOTION: ROAD INFRASTRUCTURE

 **Hon. MC BAILEY** (Yeerongpilly—ALP) (Minister for Main Roads, Road Safety and Ports and Minister for Energy, Biofuels and Water Supply) (6.06 pm): What a nonsense this motion is! The great cutters of roads are accusing us of cutting. The cutters are in action doing their usual. Let us look at their record on roads. There were \$600 million in cuts over their term in government. They had a record majority and they cut \$600 million from roads. They had a \$30 million expenditure on a secret branch in Transport and Main Roads, preparing for privatisation and outsourcing, instead of spending it on roads.

I look at the member for Maryborough, who is the member for an electorate that was a sleepy hollow that got nothing done in three years. There is so much roadworks going on in his electorate because of his strong advocacy. That is because we are spending a record QTRIP in this budget of \$21 billion in this state. There is the Urraween intersection at Tinana. There is so much roadworks up there that they are complaining in the media about too much going on.

The member for Glass House is so out of touch with what is going on in this state. He talked about Toowoomba. Look at the Capital Statement. The Darling Downs area, which he complained about, has the second largest roads expenditure in the state and he is complaining about road expenditure. He complained about Mackay. In Mackay there is a Mackay Ring Road going to start this year. The Vines Creek bridges are already starting—

Mr SPEAKER: Pause the clock. If I cannot hear the minister, Hansard cannot accurately report what the minister and interjectors are saying.

Mr BAILEY: Because of the hard work of the member for Mackay, the Vines Creek bridges are underway after being ignored for three years by the previous government. They thought they were here for 10 years in government and they behaved arrogantly. They cut roads funding. When I became the Minister for Main Roads, I had a line-up of mayors at local government events complaining about the cuts to roads in their constituencies because they cut the TIDS program by nearly one-third—\$23 million in cuts to TIDS. They shafted mayors left, right and centre on the roads front right across this state.

We have seen two record QTRIP budgets from the Palaszczuk government this year and last year. We are spending a vast amount on roads in this state. Go to Cairns. Go to Townsville. We started and we finished the Townsville Ring Road. Riverway Drive in Townsville started under the Palaszczuk government. Mackay Ring Road started under this government, as did upgrades to the Bruce Highway, Warrego Highway, Cape York and the M1. After three years in government, what did the member for Clayfield do for the M1? He did nothing—zero, absolutely nothing. It has taken the Palaszczuk government to get them going.

What about the Ipswich Motorway? What did the LNP do there for three years? Absolutely zero. It is in this budget. We are investing in communities. We are investing in roads in this community. In the member for Glass House's own area near his constituency, we are doing a massive project with the federal government at Caloundra Road and the Sunshine Motorway, with two huge interchanges. We

brought it in to be less than budget, at \$900 million worth of expenditure. We saved the forest, minimised the impact and got active transport in there. We used best practice. That is what we do. We spend it on roads. We create jobs. We make sure that it is a modern design and has things like active travel wherever we possibly can.

The LNP are the big cutters. Their answer to every policy problem is to privatise or cut things. They shredded Transport and Main Roads of 2,800 staff. They shredded RoadTek because they did not believe in roads. They do protest too much here, by saying that we are cutting when they have no evidence whatsoever. They have no evidence whatsoever that there have been any cuts in this budget. It is a record QTRIP.

I can assure Queenslanders that the Palaszczuk government will continue to deliver roads right across this state. We delivered the Western Roads Upgrade Program. The LNP say they support Western Queensland, but what did they do to help roads out there during the drought? Absolutely nothing. We have brought in a \$40 million Western roads program. We have brought in a transport package of \$10 million for tourism sites in Western Queensland. Again, we have done things like the Cape River Bridge and the Gregory Developmental Road near Charters Towers. We have improved a lot of those western roads around Mount Isa. We have invested in roads right across this state, regardless of who represents them, unlike those opposite who cut roads to ribbons. The opposition leader ratted on regional roads. That is his record. The member for Clayfield and Ascot ratted on regional roads. He does not understand Queensland. If he gets half a chance, he cannot be trusted. The LNP cannot be trusted on roads. Their record is appalling.

(Time expired)