




Speech By
Hon. Mark Bailey

MEMBER FOR YEERONGPILLY

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ADJOURNMENT

Gold Coast, Infrastructure

 **Hon. MC BAILEY** (Yeerongpilly—ALP) (Minister for Main Roads, Road Safety and Ports and Minister for Energy, Biofuels and Water Supply) (1.12 am): I was born on the Gold Coast, and to this day I feel an affinity for that place. It is the sixth-largest city in the state and the largest non-capital city in this country. This budget has been a fantastic budget for the Gold Coast. Finally, after three years of inaction by the previous government, we have seen the upgrade between Varsity Lakes and Mudgeeraba underway—\$18.6 million allocated for a \$180 million project. We also see the planning locked in for the next section from Tugun to Varsity Lakes—a \$1.6 million allocation for this year, part of a \$5 million allocation in the forwards, after nothing again done by the Newman government on the M1 whatsoever. We are seeing \$14.9 million allocated for the Commonwealth Games roads package.

Opposition members interjected.

Mr SPEAKER: Pause the clock. I apologise, Minister. One moment. Members, I am tolerant during the adjournment debate. I allowed the member for Toowoomba North to go past his time without interruption so I would ask other members to participate without interjection.

Mr BAILEY: As part of the Commonwealth Games package, six road packages, \$160 million—a great legacy for the Gold Coast road system because of the Palaszczuk government. That includes, of course, the six-laning of Carrara Road at Olsen Avenue with a \$10 million allocation for this year, part of a \$22 million overall allocation, and the Gooding Drive roundabout—\$6.6 million next financial, year part of an \$11.7 million allocation.

We have fantastic huge allocations for rail infrastructure on the Gold Coast as well. The Coomera-Helensvale duplication is getting very close to completion. There is \$23 million this financial year, part of a \$131 million allocation. It should have been done by the previous government and was not. The light rail stage 2, 75 per cent funded by the Palaszczuk government—\$233 million—to get light rail stage 2 connecting up to light rail stage 1 and the heavy rail on the Gold Coast. This is integrated public transport for the Gold Coast all because of the Labor Party and its commitment to infrastructure on the Gold Coast.

We are also seeing a dredging and navigational channel allocation of \$5.5 million despite the totally without fact criticism by the member for Broadwater, and we see the Cross River Rail project funded, a five-minute frequency when completed which will benefit Gold Coast commuters coming to Brisbane with up to a 15-minute time saving. It will be a game-changer for a balanced transport network between Brisbane and the Gold Coast, making sure that we have 8,600 more peak-hour seats on the system.

There is so much happening on the Gold Coast, as the member for Southport said in his commendation of the Labor government. Even the Liberal National Party member for Southport had to admit that a lot is going on on the Gold Coast. That is on top of the history of Labor achievements on the Gold Coast such as the Gold Coast University Hospital, the Titan's stadium, the Sun's stadium, the last M1 significant upgrade, the Southport pool upgrade and the heavy rail at Varsity Lakes.