



Speech By
Nikki Boyd

MEMBER FOR PINE RIVERS

Record of Proceedings, 5 September 2017

MATTERS OF PUBLIC INTEREST

Pine Rivers Electorate, Transport Infrastructure

 **Ms BOYD** (Pine Rivers—ALP) (11.49 am): It is nice to put a stop to the contribution of the member for Nanango. I think we should get *Fact Check* in on the hyperbole from the member for Nanango. She certainly needs a reminder in terms of downward pressure on energy prices. It was those opposite who increased energy prices by 43 per cent under the Newman-Nicholls government. What a disgrace!

I rise today to speak about the new transport infrastructure being delivered for our growing community in Pine Rivers. This growth presents a transport infrastructure challenge. Transport is an economic and a lifestyle issue. Every hour spent in the car sitting in traffic is an hour away from our families. That is why I have worked so hard to deliver new road upgrades, more and quicker train services, a station upgrade and bus service improvements. The proposed university at Petrie presents us with an opportunity. Our road, train and bus network must evolve to meet the changing needs of the population it services.

Congestion is an ongoing headache for people in my electorate, particularly for many who are caught in the daily migration of commuters to the city for work. Last year the Caboolture and Ferny Grove train lines replaced the Gold Coast line as South-East Queensland's busiest rail routes. Caboolture is seeing some 12,500 commuters entering into and leaving the CBD each peak hour and Ferny Grove is seeing some 8,000 commuters. Every government for 20 years has been building roads, upgrading intersections and trying to solve these problems. The reality is that until public transport becomes the cheaper and much faster option our roads will remain clogged.

The Fairer Fares package rollout is seeing a typical commuter from Pine Rivers saving around \$900 a year, along with simpler and easier to understand zones. Only the Palaszczuk government is committed to Cross River Rail. This project will save eight minutes of travel time on the Caboolture line, provide an additional 5,400 seats for Moreton Bay and see trains departing every six minutes. It will take 18,500 cars off the road. In stark contrast, the LNP will not back this congestion-busting, capacity-building project. They have already killed it off once before for the BaT Tunnel and now the LNP want to put the project into review and think about congestion. The people have had thousands of hours sitting in traffic to think about congestion and they want action and that is exactly what we are doing.

I have worked hard to secure significant rail infrastructure upgrades for tracks and bridges—some propped up over eight decades and groaning under current use: replacement works for North Pine, South Pine and Tributary Creek rail bridges to make rail travel faster, safer and more reliable. As a candidate I called for an accessible Strathpine station. This \$15.2 million upgrade will provide independent accessibility and early works will commence in November this year. Over recent months I have been out in our community with Queensland Rail asking commuters for feedback on the proposed

upgrades and there has been much positive and constructive feedback. The installation of lifts, a new overpass footbridge, drop-off points, amenities and general improvement will ensure that locals can get about the station easier, faster and in a safer manner.

There is plenty of good news in my community in the roads space. The ongoing works on the Gateway Upgrade North south of Nudgee—widening that section to six lanes—is an investment that is much welcomed and very long overdue. That section is a choke point in peak time traffic and a key artery that many in my community rely on every day. I have been working hard with TMR to fine-tune the design that will see the removal of two sets of traffic lights and a roundabout at the Gympie Road-Dixon Street intersection, replacing them with one signalised intersection. This will remove a significant choke point and will ensure smooth flow of traffic for the future growth of the Strathpine business district. Further down the road in the neighbouring electorate of Kallangur, we are also seeing the upgrade of the Petrie roundabout. Named by the RACQ seven years ago as one of the worst congestion spots in Pine Rivers, it is the Palaszczuk government that has stepped up to invest in fixing this bottleneck, a very timely fix when considering the university campus will come online by 2020.

Much community consultation was conducted with local business as I set about delivering the upgraded intersection at Kremzow and South Pine roads, Brendale. I would like to thank those owners at the Brendale Business Park for sharing their views and being prepared to work together to get the balance right at the intersection. There is so much more that I have delivered. I have delivered major upgrades on the Eatons Crossing Road intersection with a dedicated turning lane for Bunya Road and the intersection of Eatons Crossing and Samford-Dayboro roads has been resurfaced. So many people have been pleased with the upgrade of the bus interchange at Strathpine.

I have launched a transport survey. It is an ongoing way for me to hear the views and opinions of people in my electorate to focus my discussions with TMR, TransLink, council and our ministers for transport and main roads. I have been so surprised with the hundreds of people expressing their views. I thank them for their input and encourage people to go to my website and Facebook page to continue to let me know what is important to them.