




Speech By  
**Hon. Dr Steven Miles**  
**MEMBER FOR MOUNT COOT-THA**

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Record of Proceedings, 5 September 2017

## MINISTERIAL STATEMENTS

### Transport and Road Infrastructure

 **Hon. SJ MILES** (Mount Coot-tha—ALP) (Minister for Environment and Heritage Protection and Minister for National Parks and the Great Barrier Reef) (10.08 am): The Palaszczuk government is investing in infrastructure, delivering local jobs and ensuring economic growth. That is clear from our record Queensland Transport and Investment Program which outlines a four-year pipeline of transport and road infrastructure investment worth approximately \$21 billion. That \$21 billion will deliver 16,950 direct jobs over the next four years, which is good news for Queenslanders, good news for our regions and good news for our economy.

A record investment means we have committed to more projects, we are creating more jobs and we are building better, safer roads across the state. As part of this record investment, \$400 million will rebuild roads damaged by Cyclone Debbie and associated flooding. We have also committed to delivering huge infrastructure projects across the state. We are upgrading the Gateway Motorway North, which is already over halfway completed. We are sealing the Peninsula Development Road in the far north, supporting regional jobs including Indigenous apprentices. We are expanding the Bill Fulton Bridge and building the Smithfield Bypass in Cairns. We are upgrading Riverway Drive in Townsville. We are also building the Mackay Ring Road, the Walkerston Bypass and replacing the Vines Creek Bridge in Mackay. In Toowoomba we are constructing the second range crossing and in Brisbane we are upgrading the Ipswich Motorway from Darra to Rocklea. We are fixing the M1 at the Gateway merge and between Mudgeeraba to Varsity Lakes. We also are a proud partner in the \$8.5 billion, 10-year Bruce Highway upgrade program, upgrading the Bruce right up the east coast from Brisbane to Cairns.

On roads, our record is clear. This year's QTRIP is a record investment for the second year in a row. Unfortunately for the member for Clayfield, his record is also clear. Compare our transport and roads investment to when the member for Clayfield was treasurer of this state and one will find our commitment is billions of dollars more than the LNP delivered while in government, despite their record majority. The LNP neglected regional roads, slashing funding by at least \$600 million during their three years; they cut funding to local government under the Transport Infrastructure Development Scheme by 37 per cent—a \$23 million cut to funding each financial year during their term; and they wasted more than \$30 million of roads, transport and ports funding preparing for privatisation and outsourcing—the \$30 million was diverted from the roads and transport budget to bankroll the Newman government's bid to sell Queensland's assets and outsource services, a decision made by the member for Clayfield himself as treasurer.

Our policy is to buy Queensland; the LNP's policy is to sell Queensland. Our policy is to build roads; their policy is to cut roads.