



Speech By  
**Hon. Mark Bailey**


**MEMBER FOR MILLER**

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## MINISTERIAL STATEMENTS

### Gold Coast Commonwealth Games, Transport

 **Hon. MC BAILEY** (Miller—ALP) (Minister for Transport and Main Roads) (10.01 am): After countless hours of hard work by dedicated transport workers, the 2018 Gold Coast Commonwealth Games Transport Plan delivered in spades. I am pleased to advise the House that more than seven million trips were made on the network during the games, with a massive 5.3 million trips being made on the public transport network.

The Palaszczuk government delivered nearly \$1 billion in transport infrastructure for the games and for the Gold Coast which ensured the network ran smoothly and created a long-lasting legacy for Gold Coast residents. For the first time, eight trains per hour ran to the Gold Coast. Why? It is because the Palaszczuk government duplicated the heavy rail line from Helensvale to Coomera to allow that to occur, something ignored by the previous government. We funded the \$119 million upgrade of the Smith Street Motorway, Olsen Avenue and the connecting interchange and delivered \$160 million in road network improvements at Southport-Burleigh Road, Ross Street, Olsen Avenue and Nerang-Broadbeach Road. We also delivered the \$74 million exit 54 upgrade. Almost one million trips were taken to and from games venues on the light rail, boosted for the games thanks to the \$420 million stage 2 extension project we delivered in a record 18 months, opening last December. The games would not have been as successful as they were without the G:Link light rail. The G:Link light rail stage 2 would not have been built without the Palaszczuk government.

Making transport during the games a success was so much more than building infrastructure. It was about introducing games lanes for officials and athletes, tripling heavy rail services and running them 24 hours a day to and from the coast, and an engaging campaign encouraging locals to consider using public transport for the first time ever—which many of them did. I was very glad to go to the games with the Premier and the Minister for Sport and engage with the public who were having a terrific time.

**Opposition members** interjected.

**Mr SPEAKER:** Members to my left, this is not an opportunity for a running commentary. I ask you to keep your interjections to a minimum.

**Mr BAILEY:** Despite the negativity and the doomsaying of the opposition, the M1 flowed freely throughout the games. It was proof of our campaign. The success of the games would not have been possible without our incredible staff and volunteers. I particularly want to thank the 16,000 drivers, control centre logisticians, engineers and customer service staff and volunteers. They went above and beyond to make the games a once-in-a-lifetime experience for the 6,500 athletes and team officials, 1,000 officials, 3,000 media and, of course, 1.5 million spectators. The games are now behind us but their Gold Coast legacy lives on every day: the heavy rail, the light rail, the road upgrades. The Gold Coast infrastructure this government built will continue to be used well into the future, including by many who previously may not have used it.

In the week following the games I was very happy, along with the members for Macalister and Gaven and federal minister Fletcher, to help turn the first sod for the M1 upgrade from Varsity Lakes to Mudgeeraba with works at the M1-M3 merge also underway—two major M1 upgrades underway by this government after not a single new dollar was spent on the M1 by the previous LNP government. These are two huge upgrades kickstarted by the Palaszczuk government. It is good to see the federal government following our lead with support for the M1 with its recent announcement of additional funding. It is a good start but there needs to be more. The Palaszczuk government will always stand up to Canberra to ensure Queensland gets its fair share.