



Speech By  
**Hon. Mark Bailey**


**MEMBER FOR MILLER**

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Record of Proceedings, 22 August 2018

**MINISTERIAL STATEMENTS**

**Roads**

 **Hon. MC BAILEY** (Miller—ALP) (Minister for Transport and Main Roads) (10.00 am): The Palaszczuk Labor government is committed to busting congestion for Queensland motorists. I note the RACQ congestion report released today, and I want to assure the people of Queensland that we are investing in the infrastructure needed to make travelling around Queensland, including around the south-east, as easy as possible. I also note that the RACQ report supported our recently announced 'managed motorways' approach to the state's busiest road—the M1. Managed motorways, which has been proven to reduce congestion on other roads around South-East Queensland, uses ramp metering and variable speed limits to reduce the number—

**Opposition members** interjected.

**Mr SPEAKER:** Members to my left, if you wish to ask the minister a question, there is a period called question time coming up very shortly. Until then, please cease your interjections.

**Mr BAILEY:** Managed motorways uses ramp metering and variable speed limits to reduce the number and severity of crashes and thereby reduce travel time. There is major construction underway right now on many major roads across Queensland. Our QTRIP this year delivers a record \$21.7 billion investment in road and transport infrastructure, with the funding total higher by more than \$700 million in this year's budget—thanks to the Palaszczuk Labor government's increased investment—while the federal government investment fell by more than six per cent.

We apologise for the delays that road construction projects cause motorists and we thank them for their patience as we build the infrastructure Queenslanders need. After not one new dollar was spent on M1 upgrades under the LNP, the Palaszczuk Labor government is spending more than \$2.3 billion on the M1. That is \$2.3 billion more than the LNP. We are delivering four massive M1 upgrade projects on Queensland's busiest road—two of which are underway at the moment at the Gateway merge and between Mudgeeraba and Varsity Lakes. They are huge construction sites.

**Opposition members** interjected.

**Mr BAILEY:** Mr Speaker, if I were the opposition, I would be embarrassed about the M1 as well. Among our many transport projects, we are building new roads or delivering major upgrades in South-East Queensland. We are spending \$162 million on the Bruce Highway upgrade between Caloundra Road and Sunshine Motorway, including Australia's first diverging diamond interchange design. We are spending \$200 million on the Ipswich Motorway upgrade from Rocklea to Darra, including a recently announced additional extension to Boundary Road funded out of savings from that project which will see new road connections there. We are spending \$228 million on the Gateway Arterial upgrade on the north side between Nudgee and Bracken Ridge—which is near completion—widening the motorway from four to six lanes.

At Jamboree Heights, we have committed \$65 million to upgrade the Sumners Road interchange to duplicate the overpass. We are reducing bus connection times to the Darra train station. We have also committed \$20 million to progress a new bridge across the Brisbane River on the Centenary Motorway. If only the Brisbane City Council would start to do something about design work or allocating funds at the Walter Taylor Bridge bottleneck. We are nearing completion of the \$1.6 billion Toowoomba Second Range project that will take trucks off Toowoomba roads and support Queensland's freight industry. Construction on that project started under this government. There is also the privately funded half a billion dollar upgrade of the Logan Motorway-Gateway extension, which is now well advanced.

We are also making massive investments in public transport, as outlined by the Deputy Premier earlier. We are building the \$5.4 billion Cross River Rail project and the Beerburrum to Nambour rail duplication. We have also delivered the Gold Coast Light Rail Stage 2 in 18 months flat, delivered the duplication of the heavy rail line between Coomera and Helensvale, invested \$330 million in Gold Coast road upgrades. With our Fairer Fares policy, we have seen 5.4 million extra public transport trips this year compared to last year, with all modes showing an increase under this government. This is in the context of a \$600 million cut in road and rail infrastructure under the previous government.

**Opposition members** interjected.

**Mr BAILEY:** They do interject a lot because they are confused when they hear about investment in road and rail infrastructure. They do not understand it. They have an appalling record on it. I take the interjections as an absolute compliment. This government is investing in road and rail infrastructure in a way the previous government did not.

**Opposition members** interjected.

**Mr SPEAKER:** Order! Members, the interjections are creeping up. It would also be helpful if ministerial statements were not provocative.