



Speech By  
**Hon. Mark Bailey**


**MEMBER FOR MILLER**

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## **MINISTERIAL STATEMENTS**

### **Road Safety Week; Minister for Transport and Main Roads, Emails**

 **Hon. MC BAILEY** (Miller—ALP) (Minister for Transport and Main Roads) (10.32 am): Last week was the Palaszczuk government's fourth Queensland Road Safety Week. The road toll this year to date is of great concern to me and the government. As of this morning, 17 more people have lost their lives on Queensland roads compared to this time last year. These latest statistics show there is still much more to do to increase road safety for Queensland motorists. That is why last week's Road Safety Week was so important. We once again partnered with the Queensland Police Service, which does such a great job, to remind Queenslanders of their responsibilities while on the road.

The Palaszczuk government is doing all it can to reduce the road toll via road infrastructure upgrades, advertising campaigns and road safety grants, but we need motorists to play their part. Last year, distraction, drink and drug driving and riding, fatigue, speeding and not wearing a seatbelt were a factor in 56 per cent of road deaths. More than any other, these road deaths are preventable and unnecessary. In total, 247 people were tragically killed and 6,450 people were hospitalised—that is an extraordinary number—in 2017, many with life-changing injuries. This has a devastating effect on families, friends and communities.

During this Road Safety Week we have held more than 230 events throughout Queensland—in local schools, shopping centres, workplaces and community hubs—involving everyone from schoolkids to our senior citizens. A new CBD pedestrian safety campaign was launched on 27 August, 'Be aware. Cross with care', which runs until 16 September.

With 23 pedestrians dying in Queensland to date this year, it is a timely reminder for everyone to remain vigilant and aware near our roads. Last week, I launched the latest winning Co-Lab campaign, 'Let's drive the road toll down to zero'. This campaign, designed by young people and targeted at young people, uses humour to talk about our long-term vision of zero road trauma. The campaign videos are being aired on YouTube, Catch Up TV and social media now. I encourage all members to check them out on our Join the Drive to Save Lives Facebook page. Previous Co-Lab ad campaigns over the past two years have achieved more than eight million views online.

In addition, on 30 August I was pleased to attend a regional forum in Townville with the member for Thuringowa and a range of stakeholders to look at the staggering statistic that one in four people killed in vehicles on Queensland roads are not wearing seatbelts. According to the research, regional Queenslanders are less likely to buckle up.

Although Queensland Road Safety Week is over for another year, I continue to encourage all Queenslanders to speak up for road safety every day, every time they get behind the wheel. I would like to acknowledge our partners—Queensland Cricket, RACQ, MAIC and CARRS-Q—along with many other advocates throughout Queensland for their support.

I can provide some information to the chamber in relation to media reports this morning. I can report to the chamber that I was, in fact, on leave and out of the country until my first day back at work on Monday, 23 January. Upon my return, I was briefed on matters that occurred while I was on leave. As soon as the matter of personal email use was raised at cabinet in the afternoon of 23 January, I committed to complying with the Premier's directive.