




Speech By
Ros Bates

MEMBER FOR MUDGEERABA

Record of Proceedings, 17 May 2018

PRIVATE MEMBER'S STATEMENT

M1, Upgrade

 **Ms BATES** (Mudgeeraba—LNP) (2.00 pm): I rise to speak about the traffic jam that is the M1. The M1 in my electorate runs from exit 73 at Carrara all the way to exit 85 at Reedy Creek. As governments have come and gone, I have continued to deliver upgrades in my electorate, usually by shaming the Labor government or previously having the do-nothing Labor member run to Paul Lucas begging for an announcement so she would not lose the seat. They can keep telling fibs about the M1 funding and construction as much as they like but no-one on the coast will believe them.

Labor had the money to eight-lane the M1 from Nerang to Tugun and did nothing for years. The LNP built the M1 in 18 months and the LNP upgraded the stretch from exit 75 to exit 82. Do members know how I know that? I know that because I officially opened it and there is a plaque on the M1 at exit 75 that has my name on it.

I know whose names it does not have on it. It does not have Mark Bailey's because he was either a councillor in Brisbane or I think he ran off to do some acting classes.

Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER (Mr Stewart): Member for Mudgeeraba, refer to members by their correct titles.

Ms BATES: It does not have the member for Miller's name on it because he was either a councillor in Brisbane or he had run off to do some acting classes. I am not quite sure about that. It does not have the member for Gaven's name on it because she was still in primary school when I began the fight to upgrade the M1. Gaven residents are not stupid, but keep taking photos of yourselves with a shovel, because all you are doing is digging yourself a hole.

Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER: Direct your comments through the chair, member for Mudgeeraba.

Ms BATES: How could I forget the chipmunk on helium, Senator Murray Watt, the oncer from Everton in the Bligh government, who pretends he spends his time on the Gold Coast but has never delivered anything on the M1 either federally or statewide. Locals shake their heads asking, 'Who are these people kidding?' Labor's magnificent seven of the class of 2004 were all voted out because they did not do anything on the M1 even when they were in government because Beattie, Bligh and now Palaszczuk do not care about the Gold Coast.

Just weeks ago, the federal coalition government put \$1 billion on the table to fix the M1 to the border. What are Labor members going to do now that Bill Shorten, their Labor mate, has matched the \$1 billion funding fifty-fifty? Are we going to see it in Labor's budget next month?

Whilst I am talking about the M1, what a ridiculous comment from the minister that accidents have lessened on the M1 because of reducing the speed limit. People cannot even get up to 100 kilometres an hour at the best of times. This is combined with the fact that they scared everyone off the M1 during the Commonwealth Games. No-one was on it. No wonder accidents decreased. It sure as hell was not anything they did that made the difference.

If the government wants to see road rage, it should reduce the speed limit on the M1, and we on the Gold Coast will make sure motorists direct all their rage at the Labor Party and the member for Gaven. I call on the Premier and the Minister for Main Roads to stop the political pointscoring and get on and fix the M1 and plan for a second M1.