




Speech By
Hon. Cameron Dick

MEMBER FOR WOODRIDGE

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MINISTERIAL STATEMENT

Infrastructure

 **Hon. CR DICK** (Woodridge—ALP) (Minister for State Development, Manufacturing, Infrastructure and Planning) (9.47 am): This week we saw yet another example of how the Morrison federal LNP government is failing Queensland. As reported in the *Courier-Mail* yesterday, out of a \$4.5 billion Morrison government fund, a fund meant to build roads to connect regions with major business opportunities, less than one half of one per cent, or only \$14.5 million of the fund, will be allocated to Queensland this financial year. It is typical of a federal LNP government that sees Queensland as nothing but a source of revenue and a source of votes.

Queensland is the export powerhouse of Australia, exporting more than New South Wales and Victoria combined, bringing in \$85.8 billion worth of international sales that keeps our national economy going. While Queensland is bringing home the bacon for the national economy, Queensland does not get so much as a tin of Spam from the Morrison government. A single town in Victoria gets more than we could ever hope for. Geelong gets \$2 billion for a fast rail, it gets a \$1 billion defence howitzer system, a new women's and children's hospital, new pools, a new mental health service and \$3.5 million for the Drysdale Sports Precinct. This is all for people who did not even elect the LNP. Meanwhile the logs in the federal Queensland LNP caucus, sitting on fat margins, cannot even get money for Gold Coast light rail. There is no money for Cross River Rail. When it comes to infrastructure, the Palaszczuk Labor government is doing the heavy lifting.

When we came to government, the Newman LNP government had an infrastructure budget of \$42.481 billion, with an arrow pointing down. The Palaszczuk Labor government has turned that around, lifting our four-year spend to almost \$50 billion—\$49.544 billion—supporting over 40,000 jobs in the next 12 months. That is why infrastructure underspend under our government is approaching zero per cent, which is the first time that has happened in Queensland for a decade. However, we cannot do it alone. It is time that Scott Morrison and the federal LNP government started giving Queensland its fair share and paid for the infrastructure that our growing state deserves.