



Speech By  
**Corrine McMillan**


**MEMBER FOR MANSFIELD**

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**ADJOURNMENT**

**Mansfield Electorate, Infrastructure**

 **Ms McMILLAN** (Mansfield—ALP) (6.18 pm): I rise to speak about the need for the Morrison government to loosen its purse strings and invest in the infrastructure promised to the people of the Mansfield electorate. Independent bodies from the Reserve Bank to the International Monetary Fund have repeatedly urged federal governments to spend money to stimulate the Australian economy. Earlier this month the RBA cut interest rates to just 0.75 per cent, the lowest level on record, and rates are likely to be cut again in 2020, but the governor of the Reserve Bank cannot act alone in his efforts to turn Australia's economy around.

Earlier this week the IMF downgraded Australia's economic growth forecast, saying 'monetary policy cannot be the only game in town. It should be coupled with fiscal support.' Australia needs a federal government willing to bring forward infrastructure spending to build and rebuild local communities and put money in the pockets of Australians. The IMF gets it, the RBA gets it, the Palaszczuk government gets it, but not the Morrison LNP government.

My Mansfield community knows that the Morrison government is not holding up its end of the bargain. We are still waiting for the delivery of significant projects promised at the last federal election. These include: the Rochedale Road and Priestdale Road roundabout upgrade to a traffic light intersection, which is a significant safety concern for local families; the Newnham Road and Wecker Road intersection at Mount Gravatt; and the lifting of Bernie's Place next door to the Mount Gravatt Community Centre, providing much needed additional space. These projects are listed on the Morrison government's never-never list—listed for 2023.

Research suggests that, when a government invests in infrastructure, unemployment falls, crime falls, currencies fluctuate less, business confidence improves, consumer spending increases and social harmony rises, but the Morrison government has never been strong on research. The Morrison government fails to do as we would expect of a federal government—that is, invest in and lead innovation; focus on industries requiring education and skills, including medical fields; focus on high-value niche industries where the market is not price sensitive; further the goals of foreign policy; and intervene in a declining economic market. The Palaszczuk government is doing all of the heavy lifting on infrastructure in Queensland, with \$12.9 billion in infrastructure planned for the next 12 months alone supporting 40,500 jobs—including jobs for the good people of Mansfield.