




Speech By
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MEMBER FOR MOUNT OMMANEY

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PRIVATE MEMBER'S STATEMENT

Budget, Mount Ommaney Electorate

 **Ms PUGH** (Mount Ommaney—ALP) (2.28 pm): I was chuffed to get my hands on the budget yesterday, and in my short time today I am going to focus on the key infrastructure commitments that we are investing in as a government to get Mount Ommaney locals to work sooner and, more importantly, back home at the end of the day. Firstly, there is the long-awaited Sumner Road overpass. Last week as I drove through I noticed the Telstra crew had just finished removing services from the bridge, work they had started earlier this year. This means that we are closer than ever to awarding the tender for construction. It is not just the bridge that we committed too at the election—oh no, it is better than ever.

The Palaszczuk government's record roads and transport budget will see an additional \$15 million for the Sumners Road interchange upgrade to construct six new lanes to bust congestion in our growing area. I would like to thank the Harding family, local business owners, and the Centenary Stormers soccer club because it is thanks to their advocacy that this new design will also include additional U-turns. This upgrade to the upgrade brings the total project budget to \$80 million. I am excited to see that it will also create 105 construction jobs for the life of the project.

The additional investment in a new four-lane bridge heading westbound will be constructed alongside initial plans for a two-lane eastbound bridge, further cutting congestion for the interchange's 35,000 daily drivers—but there's more! It will also include a brand-new, completely grade separated bicycle underpass for our many centenary cyclists. I know that our local Bicycle User Group, and Chris Cox in particular, are really pleased with this aspect of the upgrade to the plan. Locals know that the Sumners Road overpass is busier than ever—traffic is growing year on year—due to the thriving business hubs of Darra and Sumner Park. We are getting on with the job of building this vital piece of infrastructure.

Now to some news on the Centenary Bridge. I am pleased to say that the Palaszczuk government will begin design in coming weeks for a new Centenary Bridge at Jindalee. We have \$16 million locked in to fast-track investigations and a business case for the new three-lane bridge over the Brisbane River. With more than 85,000 vehicles a day using this road, I know that for Centenary locals it just cannot come soon enough.

Finally, it was a pleasure to join my good friend the Minister for Transport and Main Roads to formalise the acquisition of the brand-new site for our Darra park-and-ride. This mega popular park-and-ride is full shortly after seven every morning. The \$8 million we are investing will provide an additional 180 car parks, taking the total to more than 440 carparks. This means more Centenary residents will be able to get a park at the park-and-ride and to get to work and back home to their families sooner.

This budget is delivering on what matters to the Mount Ommaney electorate—jobs and less congestion. What that means is more time with our loved ones, and isn't that what it is all about?

(Time expired)