




Speech By
Linus Power

MEMBER FOR LOGAN

Record of Proceedings, 13 June 2019

**APPROPRIATION (PARLIAMENT) BILL; APPROPRIATION BILL; REVENUE
AND OTHER LEGISLATION AMENDMENT BILL**

 **Mr POWER** (Logan—ALP) (1.08 am): I heard the opposition leader earlier today say that the budget is about choices and I kept hearing ‘strong choices’. That is right: Campbell Newman and the member for Nanango’s Strong Choices program is alive and well.

We know the member for Nanango was at the table as the LNP team drew up the Strong Choices plan. It was a plan for cuts, a plan for sackings and a plan especially for sell-offs. We know the member for Nanango has never apologised for Strong Choices; in fact, I do not think anyone on that side has apologised for Strong Choices. They never criticised Strong Choices. Instead, she only tries to pretend it never existed but we remember and Queenslanders remember. We know that the cuts, the sackings and the sell-offs are the essence of the state LNP. In Logan we remember—

Opposition members interjected.

Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER (Mr McArdle): Order! Members!

Mr POWER: They do not like it, Mr Deputy Speaker. They do not like being reminded of what they were like. In Logan, we remember the bus services that were cut, we remember that the teacher numbers did not keep up with the growth of students.

Ms Fentiman interjected.

Mr POWER: The member for Waterford knows this so well. We remember that they cut the maternity services from Logan West. We remember the failure to build classes. We remember the hardworking public servants who were sacked and of course the plan to sell off assets. We know that this LNP is just waiting to try to trick Queenslanders before they get straight back into the cutting, sacking and selling. Queenslanders know better. They will work you out.

We also know that there is a distinct contrast. The Deputy Premier and Treasurer put forward a different vision of security, support, stability and services. For a growing area like Logan we need support, not the service cuts; we need stability, not the sackings; we need to build our services and not have sell-offs. That is why I urge all members to support this budget—for its security, support, stability and services that Queenslanders need.

Earlier today, I heard the member for Scenic Rim make the totally outrageous claim that there was no spending on the Mount Lindesay Highway in this budget. I simply could not believe it.

Ms Fentiman: Because it wasn’t in the media release and he’s too lazy to read the budget papers.

Mr POWER: I think that may be right. I simply could not believe that he could make that claim with a straight face when he must know that the budget is delivering \$45.7 million this year into the Mount Lindesay Highway and it will continue to deliver. He must be thinking back to the LNP budgets. They were the ones that delivered absolutely nothing that exists today north of Jimboomba on the Mount

Lindesay Highway. That is right. The only piece of services they delivered in investment between Browns Plains and Jimboomba—the \$800,000—is now being removed as we build the North Maclean safety project.

The member for Scenic Rim must pretend not to see the roadworks currently underway at North Maclean and South Maclean. He must drive past them somehow blind. If he does not get it, I will explain to him and the House what is going on. We are building the safe access road from Chambers Flat Road through to Greenbank Road and a safe intersection at Greenbank Road. That eliminates all of those service roads, especially things like the mushroom farm where at shift change there are so many cars turning right. We are investing another \$14 million to eradicate more side roads on the other side of the river in South Maclean, with short service roads through to Wharf Street and on the other side to the temple. On festival days, it is really important to eliminate that traffic and take them to the much safer intersection at Stockleigh Road so it is much safer on the Mount Lindesay Highway as you come across the bridge.

We have also budgeted for construction soon to start on the four-laning in Park Ridge South between Rosia Road and Stoney Camp Road. Twenty per cent of the traffic gets off at that point, so it is vital that we keep the four-laning through there. We also have four-laning budgeted to be built between Camp Cable Road and Johanna Street, lifting the road on the right hand side to reduce the incidence of flooding that can occasionally cut the Mount Lindesay Highway at that point. If the member for Scenic Rim missed all of that, he also would have missed the \$14,391,000 for improving the intersections between Jimboomba and Beaudesert. That is new investment for improving safety that the LNP are simply blind to. That is more in investments alone than the LNP put in in their seven years when they had control of the budget.

Opposition members interjected.

Mr POWER: That is right—three years and the four years out. I will be kind. I am sure the member for Scenic Rim just missed it. I welcome him to let me explain the budget documents so he cannot miss it. I have got them here. I also need to mention the ongoing construction at North Street, building the new four-lane intersection that I am told by engineers will reduce congestion by 80 per cent. This is vital as currently with the small roundabout the traffic can frustratingly back up all the way to Stegman Road.

Opposition members interjected.

Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER: Stop the clock.

Mr Krause interjected.

Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER: The House will come to order yet again. Member for Scenic Rim!

Mr POWER: They do not like the fact that for the three years they were in they added nothing, and in the four years in their outward budget they told Queenslanders they planned to do nothing. That is seven years of inaction on the Mount Lindesay Highway. We know that. They do not like it but we know it. There is also planning for the remaining sections and I will be pushing to get them built as soon as possible.

I also need to mention the \$1.8 million investment in improving the intersection of Edelsten Road and Camp Cable Road. Camp Cable Road is a vital east-west connection, and I will continue to push to make it safer and easier to drive on. This budget continues to fund for public transport—things like the Demand Responsive Transport, which is an innovative initiative, and also the car parking space at the Greenbank RSL park-and-ride, which is such a vital part of getting people to use our public transport through to the city.

Our improved roads will help families get to work and school. They will also help our local police and other services be delivered quicker. One example that might be of interest is the new ambulance station in Munruben that was announced in this budget to be built on the corner of the Mount Lindesay Highway and Chambers Flat Road. This adds to the 24-hour station that is soon to start construction in Yarrabilba. I thank the Minister for Health for his support for getting these vital services to our growing area. There is funding for the police station that will transform the Logan Village police facility into a police station, having an officer in charge there to serve the Logan Village and Yarrabilba.

As a former high school teacher, I can say that the schools in our area are so vital. One of the things I value is the new Yarrabilba State High School that will open next year, building on the new Yarrabilba State School. We have the new classrooms for Park Ridge. The member for Waterford and I share the Logan Reserve State School, where we are building new classrooms. We are also pushing for new schools south of Logan Reserve and also in Greenbank. These are tasks that we have to keep going for.

We are backing our sports clubs with many examples. There are the Redbacks and their new amenities block where we have continuing funding. There is the Park Ridge Panthers Football Club where my son plays where we are getting continuing funding for the lights. There is funding for the Mustangs Rugby League team and the Shaw Street facility in Yarrabilba. We are also getting funding for the Logan Hospital that others have spoken about. This is vital investment that the LNP simply were not going to deliver and we are.

The budget of the Deputy Premier and Premier is one that delivers. It delivers security, support, stability and services for Queenslanders. I commend the budget to the House and I ask all those to support it for the services that a growing area in Logan needs.