



Speech By  
**Hon. Mark Bailey**


**MEMBER FOR MILLER**

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## **ADJOURNMENT**

### **Electric Vehicles; Quirk, Lord Mayor G**

 **Hon. MC BAILEY** (Miller—ALP) (Minister for Transport and Main Roads) (7.21 pm): I am glad to speak tonight. I note, particularly for the previous speaker, that we are in the 21st century. This is a government that supports technology. It supports transitioning to clean energy. It supports acting on climate change. Those opposite have shown themselves to be the Luddites and technophobes of this state, and they are unashamed about it.

The world is transitioning to cleaner energy sources. In Norway 50 per cent of all cars sold are electric vehicles. I have not noticed their electricity grid collapsing all of a sudden. In fact, the Australian Energy Market Operator, which runs our power system, has made it very clear that they do not see any issue in terms of the grid when it comes to the emergence of electric vehicles. I will listen to the Australian Energy Market Operator over the member for Burleigh on any issue, especially energy, any day of the week because he knows very little about this. He hates renewables. He hates electric vehicles, just like the LNP. They do not listen to science.

We need that transition. It is good to see federal Labor taking this matter seriously. There is no electric vehicle policy of any note under the current government. This technology is galloping. I am proud to be part of a government that is leading the way in this area. The largest electric vehicle superhighway in one state in the world is in Queensland. We are ahead of the curve. That is 100 per cent renewable energy too. There are things called solar panels. I do not know whether the member for Burleigh realises it, but people can actually power their cars off their solar panels and a battery.

Getting on to the substance of my speech, I want to say a couple of things which might surprise the opposition. I acknowledge the incoming lord mayor of this city and the incoming deputy mayor. I sincerely congratulate both of them on their elevation. I thank Lord Mayor Graham Quirk, whom I knew in my nine years in the Brisbane City Council chamber, for all of his contributions. We have not always agreed on everything, but he has been a stayer and made a serious contribution. I wish him well in retirement.

I would say to the incoming lord mayor who has suggested building five green bridges—that is a first step—that the Walter Taylor Bridge in my electorate should not be ignored. In this day and age, one lane across the Brisbane River for general traffic between the Centenary suburbs and the CBD is silly. I am not going to be politically partisan. I am going to stand up for my electorate and simply say to the lord mayor, 'Have a look at the Walter Taylor Bridge. We have to get the design started there.' I am happy to work with him on this. It is a council responsibility, but that area of the city needs attention.