




Speech By
Hon. Mark Bailey

MEMBER FOR MILLER

Record of Proceedings, 1 May 2019

MINISTERIAL STATEMENTS

Transport Infrastructure

 **Hon. MC BAILEY** (Miller—ALP) (Minister for Transport and Main Roads) (10.00 am): Over the next two decades South-East Queensland's population is expected to grow by almost two million. And why not? We are the home of unprecedented job opportunities: 192,000 jobs created so far under the Palaszczuk government. That is why over the next four years we are delivering a record \$21.7 billion transport program that will support more than 19,000 jobs after a 10 per cent increase in state funding in last year's budget.

We are delivering a better M1: the \$197 million upgrade from Mudgeeraba to Varsity Lakes; the \$74 million exit 54 upgrade at Coomera; the \$195 million M1 merge upgrade; as well as the exit 57 upgrade. That is many jobs. It is the Palaszczuk state Labor government doing the heavy lifting compared to New South Wales because the federal LNP refused the Gold Coast its fair share of infrastructure funding. The \$512 million Logan Enhancement Project will soon be complete, with more than 1,300 jobs and which will unlock more than \$1.2 billion for our economy. On the Ipswich Motorway we see major progress on the \$400 million Oxley to Rocklea upgrade. This 470-job project will reduce congestion for 85,000 motorists. On the Centenary Motorway early works are well underway to upgrade the Sumners Road interchange and we are planning a much needed Centenary Bridge duplication. In Brisbane we see the first signs of the transformative \$5.4 billion Cross River Rail project, where 7,700 jobs will unlock more frequent public transport for the entire South-East Queensland region.

On the Gateway Motorway through Nudgee, 1,000 workers recently upgraded a critical 11-kilometre stretch. On the Bruce Highway we are building the \$812 million, 600-job upgrade from Caloundra Road to the Sunshine Motorway. Six-laning between Caboolture and Steve Irwin Way will follow next year. Right near the Bruce Highway is the Sunshine Coast rail line, where our Beerburum to Nambour upgrade will unlock frequent, reliable transport. Unfortunately, we have seen again the federal LNP refuse to fairly fund the project after giving Victoria 80 per cent for their rail project. This \$250 million shortfall for the Sunshine Coast means we may need to look at staging the upgrade.

The Palaszczuk Labor government is doing the heavy lifting on transport infrastructure while the federal LNP cuts cheap deals for Queensland aided and abetted by those opposite who roll over and take the first deal no matter how bad it is for Queensland. Last year the Abbott-Turnbull-Morrison government cut funding for Queensland transport infrastructure by six per cent and pushed crucial funding out to more than four years away.

Mr Crandon interjected.

Mr SPEAKER: Member for Coomera, you are warned under the standing orders.

Mr BAILEY: It is clear we cannot afford another three years of cuts and chaos under a Morrison-Palmer-Hanson government. From the M1 to the Bruce Highway, the Palaszczuk government is delivering a record investment to connect South-East Queensland and drive more than 19,000 jobs. Imagine the jobs and roads we could achieve in Queensland with our fair share of funding from Canberra.

While I am on my feet I wish to clarify two issues: I am advised by the Port of Townsville that, contrary to what has been reported today, Clive Palmer has not paid his \$1 million debt and has never offered to pay what he owes. He ought to pay his debts and tell the truth.

The second matter is that in my response to a question without notice yesterday I stated that Clive Palmer had fallen asleep in the Senate. He in fact fell asleep in the House of Representatives.

Mr SPEAKER: Thank you for that clarification, Minister.