



Speech By  
**Hon. Mark Bailey**


**MEMBER FOR MILLER**

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Record of Proceedings, 2 May 2019

## MINISTERIAL STATEMENTS

### Transport Infrastructure, Investment

 **Hon. MC BAILEY** (Miller—ALP) (Minister for Transport and Main Roads) (10.01 am): The Palaszczuk Labor government is investing record funding in Queensland's infrastructure. That investment creates jobs—more than 19,200 over the next four years thanks to our record \$21.7 billion QTRIP infrastructure budget. Of that amount, \$12.6 billion will be spent outside the Brisbane region, supporting more than 11,000 regional and rural jobs. We invest in Queensland for Queenslanders.

The Palaszczuk Labor government's record demonstrates our commitment to supporting a strong and sustainable state economy. Since July 2015, we have put \$16 billion into Queensland's road and transport infrastructure. That investment has helped this government create more than 192,000 jobs for Queenslanders since 2015.

The recently completed \$1.1 billion Gateway Upgrade North Project supported 2,021 direct jobs. Later this year work will wrap up on the Toowoomba Second Range Crossing, a \$1.6 billion project supporting more than 1,800 jobs. Of course, the Gold Coast Light Rail Stage 2 extension was built in record time by this government. We finished it in late 2017. That project supported 676 direct jobs. Out west, the new four-lane sections of the road at Dalby support 222 regional jobs. We have backed Townsville jobs with more than 500 jobs supported through the Townsville Ring Road stage 4, the Vantassel Street to Cluden duplication, Riverway Drive and there is more to come on the Townsville Ring Road stage 5. The \$193 million channel upgrade and the largest ever expansion of the port in Townsville will soon also create 125 jobs during construction. That expansion will open up the port to larger ships, creating more trade and job opportunities for the North Queensland economy.

Thanks to the member for Barron River, construction on the Smithfield bypass is underway, with 115 jobs. The Palaszczuk government is delivering \$1.3 billion on jointly funded Bruce Highway upgrades over the next four years, supporting hundreds of jobs and better road safety from the Sunshine Coast to Cairns. We have also committed \$200 million a year of additional funding as part of our Bruce Highway Trust commitment.

The largest recruitment and training program in Queensland Rail's history is underway: 142 new drivers, 276 new guards, with 81 drivers in training for a net gain of 76 drivers who have been recruited since October 2016 after losing 48 drivers under the previous Newman government. Of course, Cross River Rail is coming and there are 7,000 jobs there. The Palaszczuk Labor government's record investment delivers wider economic benefits for Queensland through reduced travel times.

As we prepare for Labour Day this Monday, Queensland workers can be assured that the Palaszczuk Labor government continues to back jobs and investment in this state, supporting working people and a stronger economy.