



Speech By  
**Hon. Mark Bailey**


**MEMBER FOR MILLER**

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Record of Proceedings, 14 June 2019

## **MINISTERIAL STATEMENT**

### **Budget, Public Transport**

 **Hon. MC BAILEY** (Miller—ALP) (Minister for Transport and Main Roads) (9.53 am): This week the Palaszczuk Labor government delivered its fourth record transport budget and one that will see \$23 billion create more than 21,500 jobs and deliver the public transport infrastructure that our state needs. Queenslanders are all aboard. After a record 182 million trips across South-East Queensland last year, Queenslanders are on track to take even more journeys on buses, trains, ferries and trams. The Palaszczuk Labor government knows how important public transport is to connecting Queenslanders with jobs, education and essential services. Over the past 12 months, we have rolled out 54 new generation rolling stock trains, opened the Townsville bus hub, started work on new park-and-rides and continued our Fairer Fares, saving passengers \$165 million.

This year's budget builds on our record public transport patronage that we have achieved, with confidence coming back to public transport. That includes \$250 million for a new inner northern busway, major overhauls for six southside stations and, of course, the \$5.4 billion Cross River Rail—a project that will unlock the rail bottleneck, reduce travel times and deliver more trains more often. We will also deliver more than 20 new bus stops for Mackay, a \$2.5 million investment for bus priority on Nicklin Way and \$4 million for the Ormeau park-and-ride upgrade.

As part of this budget, the Palaszczuk Labor government will also develop an Australian-first smart ticketing system. We are investing \$371 million over the next four years to roll out world-leading global technology that will make catching public transport easier than ever before. For the very first time, Queenslanders across the state will have the same public transport ticketing system. Soon Queenslanders will be able to use their smartphones or watches, their debit cards, or their credit cards alongside the choices of go card or paper tickets to take public transport. This system is being implemented successfully in Chicago, New York and Vancouver. It will give more options for the record number of commuters taking our public transport system.

The Palaszczuk Labor government's positive record on public transport investment is clear. We built the Coomera to Helensvale rail duplication, we built the Gold Coast Light Rail Stage 2 in record time and we are now delivering Cross River Rail. It is time the federal LNP got on board as well. Victoria has received 80 per cent of federal funding for a \$700 million rail project, but in Queensland the federal government offers us only the scraps, with the lowest ever offer for light rail and a refusal to stick to its own funding rules for the Sunshine Coast rail upgrade.

While the Leader of the Opposition and those other members opposite refuse to stand up for Queensland and meekly agree with Canberra underfunding our maroon state, this Palaszczuk Labor government will always fight for Queensland's fair share and will also deliver new public transport infrastructure. We will always back commuters and passengers all the way.