




Speech By
Hon. Mark Bailey

MEMBER FOR MILLER

Record of Proceedings, 26 November 2019

MOTION

Federal Government, Infrastructure Funding

 **Hon. MC BAILEY** (Miller—ALP) (Minister for Transport and Main Roads) (11.41 am): I move—

That this House—

1. notes
 - (a) the historic \$1.9 billion infrastructure deal struck between the Palaszczuk government and the federal Morrison government on Wednesday, 20 November, including key projects:
 - i. \$400 million in new federal road funding;
 - ii. \$836 million in joint funding delivering already promised projects sooner;
 - iii. \$508 million in new federal and state funding towards construction of Gold Coast Light Rail stage 3;
 - iv. \$46.3 million additional federal funding for two M1 exit upgrades;
 - v. \$282 million in joint funding brought forward for Bruce Highway upgrades, including accelerated funding for Linkfield Road overpass and \$12.5 million brought forward for Rockhampton Ring Road;
 - vi. \$121.9 million in joint accelerated funding to seal more roads between Cooktown and Weipa;
 - vii. \$27.5 million in joint accelerated funding for Warrego Highway including Mount Crosby Road interchange upgrade;
 - viii. \$10.4 million in joint accelerated funding for road upgrades in the Toowoomba to Seymour corridor;
 - ix. \$9.8 million in joint accelerated funding for the inland freight route between Townsville and Roma; and
 - x. agreement on inland rail linking freight from Melbourne to Brisbane, with \$6 billion invested in Queensland;
 - (b) the thousands of jobs these projects will create right across Queensland;
2. congratulates the Palaszczuk and Morrison governments for working together in the interests of Queenslanders and Queensland jobs; and
3. calls on the Prime Minister to continue putting politics aside to deliver Queensland its fair share from Canberra on jobs and infrastructure.

This is an historic agreement for Queensland. After we stood up for Queensland, we are seeing the Gold Coast Light Rail stage 3 fully funded from both the federal and state governments. We received the deal that we wanted so that our funding can go into schools, hospitals and roads. We received a fair deal.

There is funding for two upgrades to the M1 at Yatala south and Pimpama in that growth corridor. That is very significant. There is also \$50 million in new funding for the relocation of the Loganlea station; \$400 million in new funding for the National Land Transport Network; three accelerations on the M1; five accelerations on the Bruce Highway, including \$51 million in acceleration for the Mackay Ring Road stage 2, or the port access road as it is also known; and \$39 million for Linkfield Road.

Importantly, the funding for regional projects is worth noting. There is an acceleration of the Toowoomba to Seymour project in terms of the forward estimates. There is also an acceleration of the Bargara Road upgrade; a massive acceleration within the forward estimates of the Cooktown to Weipa

corridor upgrade of \$97.8 million; an upgrade of Shute Harbour Road; an upgrade of Torbanlea Pialba Road; an upgrade of the Townsville to Roma corridor; and a \$90 million acceleration of the Beerburrum to Nambour rail upgrade. There is also an acknowledgement of the very good work that we have done in terms of infrastructure on the Mount Lindesay Highway, on the Centenary Motorway and elsewhere.

When we look at the detail of this motion, we have to ask why the Leader of the Opposition's only point in criticising, knocking and being negative about this funding was that there was not much in it for regional Queensland. There are only two explanations for that. She was either not across the detail of the funding—and that is possible—or she was just simply making it up as she goes along. It was probably the tantrum of the term by the leader of negativity, knocking, whingeing and whining. This funding is good for Queensland. Any leader should acknowledge that.

I acknowledge the presence of the member for Bonney at the press conference on the Gold Coast. It was very unusual for a member of the opposition to turn up at a government press conference, but here is a picture of him smiling with a sign that says 'Go'. The member for Bonney is backing in the Palaszczuk government. I was advised that the Deputy Prime Minister asked who he was. Someone told him.

This is a fantastic funding package. It is historic. It means jobs for Queenslanders. The opposition should support this motion and make up for the negativity of last week.