




Speech By
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MEMBER FOR COOMERA

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ADJOURNMENT

Coomera Electorate, Road Infrastructure

 **Mr CRANDON** (Coomera—LNP) (7.13 pm): Tenacity and determination certainly pay off. I must say, I have had to drag the Minister for Transport kicking and screaming to deliver most of them, but it has been so worthwhile. I must admit, I have been making it easy for the minister by providing a list of priorities for him. I have done much the same for other ministers, with the police minister as a good example.

It is probably best to list some of the successes so far: the opening of exit 54 resulting in the \$500 million Coomera Town Centre as well as hundreds of millions of dollars of additional private investment in the northern Gold Coast—tick; successfully achieved the prioritisation of the opening of the ‘bridge to nowhere’ at Pimpama, taking pressure off Yawalpah Road—tick; won the fight to locate the Pimpama Railway Station adjacent to the bridge—tick. Still to come on that front though: to double the number of car parks from a reported 250 to at least 500 and a fast-tracked construction. Under Labor it will be 2024, which is far too far away. We need it by 2021-22.

Some more successes are: nominated the site for the Pimpama Police Station on Cox Road, Pimpama, even when I was told it would never be built—well, we did not give up and, yes, it will be built—tick; negotiated the land for the Coomera dredge spoil facility, which should have been up and running three years ago but, thanks to Labor, has only just been opened. Still to come on this list are the off-ramps. We have dredged the river. Now we need the capacity to get the superyachts into dry dock. Under Labor, the off-ramps have stalled. Who would build a highway without building the off-ramps? The answer is simple: Labor.

Further successes are: lobbied for a bus stop on Dixon Drive at Pimpama and ultimately the redirection and extension of the 722 bus route and additional bus stops—tick; fought to stop the proposed Jacobs Well youth bail house facility and the forced closure of the Jacobs Well Environmental Education Centre—tick; established a health subcommittee and hosted the first of many health forums, the main focus being getting a hospital on the agenda for the northern Gold Coast; ensured the second M1, the Coomera Connector, is firmly on the agenda to take 60,000 vehicles off the M1—tick; an additional 14 police officers at Coomera—tick. Still to come: at least 25 more police officers just to catch up with population growth.

Further successes are: the duplication of exits 41 and 49, fighting for the federal funding of \$50 million that forced the minister to be dragged kicking and screaming to announce \$96 million on budget day—tick; worked behind the scenes with the member for Forde to ensure these projects were on the agenda and part of the mix for the recently announced bailout of the Labor government—tick; and increased car parking at Ormeau Railway Station from the announced 70 to at least 110 additional car parks—tick.

This list is not exhaustive. There are many more wins, but it is important to look to the future, including the upgrade of exit 38, an additional exit 45 South, south of the Pimpama River, and an additional northbound entry onto the M1 on the western side at exit 45 North, as well as improvements to exit 45—and the list goes on.