



Speech By  
**Shane King**

**MEMBER FOR KURWONGBAH**

---

Record of Proceedings, 21 August 2019


**APPROPRIATION (PARLIAMENT) BILL**

**APPROPRIATION BILL**

**Consideration in Detail (Cognate Debate)**

**Appropriation Bill**

**Transport and Public Works Committee, Report**

 **Mr KING** (Kurwongbah—ALP) (11.52 am): I rise to speak to the report of the Transport and Public Works Committee in regard to the Appropriation Bill 2019. Our committee was so happy with the timings, order and overall conditions for the examination of each portfolio area last year that getting agreement this year was not a problem at all. We started off the day with transport, road safety and ports and finished with public works, housing, digital technology and sport. I would like to thank the deputy chair, the member for Hervey Bay, and the committee members, the members for Aspley, Bundamba, Callide and Traeger, for their participation on the day. I thank the ministers, their staff, the directors-general of departments and GOC executives for their participation. A number of non-committee members attended on the day to ask questions. I also thank them for their participation. I cannot go on without thanking Hansard, the parliamentary attendant staff and our hardworking Transport and Public Works Committee secretariat for their work in preparation for the hearing and on the day.

We started with the examination of main roads, road safety and ports. We talked about the return to a full timetable on our rail network. We heard about that again this morning. The minister told us that the performance on the first day was very strong—it was above the 95 per cent on-time running metric; that 430 additional services per week had been added; that there were 200,000 extra seats; and that on 59 of those services three-car sets had been replaced with six-car sets.

We also heard about the \$23 billion transport road infrastructure program over the next four years. This investment in roads and transport will sustain 21½ thousand jobs across Queensland during the life of the program. I was very happy to hear that this QTRIP reinforces that projects I have been pushing for in my electorate will happen, as the funding for them is clearly shown in the document—Dakabin station, Petrie roundabout, Narangba park-and-ride, Deception Bay Road and highway interchange, and the shifting of the bus stop on the service road at Burpengary, just to name a few.

The member for Chatsworth started a line of questioning that was an attempted gotcha, but it fell a bit flat as the semantics were wrong.

**Mr Minnikin** interjected.

**Mr KING:** I will ask him to bear with me here. He asked the CEO of Queensland Rail about the new rail services advertised. The point he tried to make was that the services were advertised as new when they were a restoration. However, the document he tabled showed that the services were actually

advertised as 'extra services', not 'new services'. The member also tried to ask questions of the minister in his temporary role looking after the Cross River Rail Delivery Authority in an attempt to score political points, but we had already received advice that this was not appropriate. The statement of reservation said that I shut down the line of questioning. That is not completely true as it was out of order and everyone had already been informed of this. Kudos to them for having a go, though. To the member's credit, he moved on to other topics when the line of questioning was going nowhere. I thank the member for Chatsworth for his largely considered questions on the day.

The final session, on housing and public works, did not start too well when the member for Burleigh attempted to table a document of over 100 pages. Then he wanted to ask questions, without anyone having had time to read it, about issues that happened in 2014, when the current minister was not even a member of this place and the LNP was in government. The tie of this line of questioning to the budget was very tenuous. When the minister explained what it was all about, we were all able to move on to more relevant questions.

The minister was able to inform the committee about the delivery of social and affordable housing. He gave us an update on the North Queensland Stadium as well as on progress on again securing the Indy car race for the Gold Coast. As a motoring enthusiast, I think that is red hot!

Even though opposition members are constantly bleating about guillotining speeches, their own shadow ministers did that to their own committee members. Our committee members work hard and deserve a chance to ask questions, not just sit there all day or get asked to do silly stunts like the member for Callide was called on to do last year.

If you take away the attempted game playing of some of the opposition members, I believe that we had a decent interrogation of the budget in our allotted session. I still managed to give the non-government members a considerably larger share of the time allotted—over one hour more time than government members had. I commend the report to the House.