



Speech By Steve Minnikin

MEMBER FOR CHATSWORTH

Record of Proceedings, 26 November 2019

MOTION

Federal Government, Infrastructure Funding

Mr MINNIKIN (Chatsworth—LNP) (12.04 pm): We have three absolute geniuses opposite and it is very timely that those three members are present in the chamber. I refer to the member for South Brisbane, the member for Sandgate and, of course, the member for Miller. They are three absolute geniuses. To be frank, over the past five years if one area of public policy has been an abject failure it is in the Department of Transport and Main Roads. It is almost like a conga line as who was there first and a couple have even had two attempts. However, that does not matter as they have all failed on two issues. In the past week they have been bailed out by the Morrison government because, through their lack of experience and also their abject waste, money was not pumped into the right areas. At the end of the day, why would we not welcome that \$1.9 billion? However, the reality is that they have been bailed out comprehensively. They waste money like drunken sailors and then, all of a sudden, the federal government has to come in at the eleventh hour and bail them out. It is an absolute joke.

The fact is that over the past five years Labor have played politics when it comes to infrastructure. In their first term they cut infrastructure in this state by about \$3 billion. Then there was a light-bulb moment as they played the same playbook going into their second term, which was their small-scale strategy of doing nothing; just relax. Do members know what? That has come back to bite them on the you know what, because if it was not for the announcement last week by Scott Morrison this government would be doing absolutely nothing.

There are still a few dumpings and a few zeroes. What about the second M1? There is nothing for the M2, as we call it. There is nothing there at all. What about the Cleveland line, the misery line? There is nothing there at all. When it comes to public transport in this state, we have become a laughing-stock. Why is that? It is because we do not have the infrastructure we require. In the coming days and early next year, more will be said in relation to Cross River Rail.

The fact of the matter is that we do not have enough money for some essential projects. We have a minister who is giving free public transport on four consecutive Mondays to make up for the rail fail fiasco. It does not matter where you look: this minister's track record in TMR has been an absolute joke. If it was not for the nice big \$1.9 billion cheque, I do not know what he would be praying for under the Christmas tree on Christmas Day, because he has failed, along with the other two.

(Time expired)