




Speech By
Hon. Mark Bailey

MEMBER FOR MILLER

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MINISTERIAL STATEMENT

Mount Lindesay Highway

 **Hon. MC BAILEY** (Miller—ALP) (Minister for Transport and Main Roads) (10.05 am): I regularly update this House on upgrades we are delivering to the Bruce Highway and the M1—projects that play a central role in the Palaszczuk Labor government’s record investments in road and transport. Those upgrades support thousands of jobs at a time when new jobs are needed most. Our investment in better roads is cutting travel times and making the state’s busiest highways safer for hundreds of thousands of Queensland motorists.

However, today I would like to speak on the progress the Palaszczuk Labor government has made on a highway in one of our most important population growth areas—the Mount Lindesay Highway, which runs between Browns Plain and Jimboomba. It services emerging communities, like Flagstone and Yarrabilba, and more established rural communities, like Beaudesert and beyond. The Mount Lindesay Highway is also a nationally significant freight route, connecting Queensland to our southern neighbours and ensuring the trucking industry keeps goods on Queensland shelves. Since entering this House, the member for Logan has tirelessly championed the cause to widen the Mount Lindesay Highway to four lanes to make safety on it a priority for our government.

Honourable members interjected.

Mr BAILEY: It is so good to see so much support for the member for Logan from the opposition. That is great to see. Working with my department, the member for Logan developed a plan that will deliver these much needed upgrades over the coming decade.

Opposition members interjected.

Mr BAILEY: Investment, not cuts—that is what we do on this side. The Palaszczuk Labor government has backed that plan with more than \$175 million to build upgrades. Five upgrades on the highway worth almost \$70 million have been completed since 2018. Just last week, work finished on the \$20 million upgrade between Rosia Road and Stoney Camp Road. As members would expect, the member for Logan was one of the first people out there to celebrate it. I note that the member for Scenic Rim has also been an enthusiastic supporter of the Palaszczuk Labor government achievements in his local media. I thank the member for Scenic Rim for his support of our achievements. It is always good to see bipartisan support.

Thanks to the advocacy of the Palaszczuk Labor government, the federal government now recognises the Mount Lindesay Highway as a nationally important highway, meaning upgrades will be majority funded by the federal government moving forward. We will continue to work collaboratively with the federal government to deliver more upgrades and more jobs. Next year, work will start on a \$75 million upgrade to four lane the highway between Stoney Camp Road and Chambers Flat Road, supporting 80 new jobs. There is also \$73 million to duplicate the highway to four lanes between Johanna Street and South Street in Jimboomba, which means a further 70 jobs.

We took a 10-year vision to the community to make the major highway they use every day less congested and safer. Three years on, they can see we have stuck to our commitment and that we will continue to create jobs and deliver the upgrades that are needed to support their growing communities.