



Speech By
Michael Crandon

MEMBER FOR COOMERA

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ADJOURNMENT

Coomera Electorate

 **Mr CRANDON** (Coomera—LNP) (7.06 pm): If there were ever confirmation of the need for a second M1, we saw it in January. We saw traffic chaos occur just days apart when a fuel tanker crashed, blocking the M1 in both directions, and when a deluge cut the M1 at exit 57. A second M1 would have provided an albeit slow alternative for drivers but better than the one alternative via Reserve Road. A second M1 will take 60,000 vehicles off the M1 every day. There is only one party that has committed to commence construction of the first section spanning the Coomera River immediately. Bring on 31 October 2020.

In an adjournment speech late last year I commented that tenacity certainly pays off and talked about some of the infrastructure wins in which, with the support of northern Gold Coasters through petitions and other means, we have been successful. I am talking about road and overpass infrastructure like exit 54, additional bus services and funding commitments from the federal government that have forced this transport minister to cough up the money for exits 41 and 49. There is good news for locals, with the hard-fought bridge to nowhere finally opened and much sooner than originally planned.

There is so much more that I will continue to fight for right up to the next election: an additional exit 45 south of the Pimpama River and an additional entry on to the M1 on the western side of the existing exit 45 north; upgrades at exit 38; a hospital in the Coomera electorate adjacent to public transport and the M1; an ambulance station in an appropriate location in Ormeau adjacent to the M1—not kilometres away where it impacts on locals; fast-tracking the Pimpama Railway Station—2024 is too far off and we need that station much sooner, 2021 perhaps; a police citizens youth club at Pimpama, where we have the highest percentage of people under 25 years of age in this state at around 43 per cent of the population—that is the target audience for police citizens youth clubs; fast-tracking the federally funded car park upgrade at Coomera Railway Station; calling for the doubling of existing capacity; \$15 million committed by the federal government in May 2018 and still no movement on it by this transport minister; and more bus services between Ormeau and Coomera railway stations and an extension of operating hours.

We called for an increase to the 722 service, which saw an immediate increase in passenger numbers, and providing a more commonsense service meant the commuters came. We need to do the same for the 721 service. We need to do the same for the Beenleigh-Ormeau railway station bus services. A bus service to Jacob's Well will immediately see an uptake, taking many cars off the road. We have new schools, a new fire station, a new police station—all hard fought for and coming online thanks to the power of the people. It makes sense that public transport keeps up as well.