




Speech By
Michael Crandon

MEMBER FOR COOMERA

Record of Proceedings, 16 June 2020

ADJOURNMENT

Northern Gold Coast, Infrastructure

 **Mr CRANDON** (Coomera—LNP) (7.17 pm): As part of Prime Minister Scott Morrison's COVID-19 economic recovery program, I am hopeful the Queensland government will back him, get on board on the northern Gold Coast because there are many shovel-ready projects that should be fast-tracked, so let's bring them on.

The construction of the exit 49 upgrade is not scheduled until 2023 at the earliest. That is a \$100 million spend that we could start on right now. The same situation for exit 41 which is a \$96 million spend. It is stuck in the slow lane. When will construction really start?

When the Pimpama Railway Station was promised by the Palaszczuk government in 2017, they did not bother telling anyone that it would not be built until 2024. That is a \$40 million spend that we could bring on and fast-track to 2021.

The federal government committed \$15 million for 400 car parks at the Coomera Railway Station back on 18 May 2019 and this minister will not even commit to spend it. Fast-tracking the building of the hard fought-for—and I was originally told never to be built—Pimpama Police Station, there is another around about \$10 million to \$12 million. Finally we saw in mid-May the fence put up at the Ormeau train station. The plan was for there to be 70 car parks, but I fought for, and we got, 125 car parks there as an absolute minimum. There are many, many other projects that need to be considered in the northern Gold Coast.

I come back to the fast-tracking of the Pimpama Railway Station. At the moment there is a petition containing 1,079 signatures of Queenslanders who wish to draw to the attention of the House the fact that the northern Gold Coast, centred on the Pimpama region, is the fastest growing region in Queensland and therefore the construction of the promised Pimpama Railway Station needs to be fast-tracked. The construction could form part of the COVID-19 economic recovery package. As I said earlier, the Labor government promised it in 2017, but not for delivery until 2024. I urge all people to get on board, go online and sign the parliamentary petition. Go to the parliamentary website, sign the petition and make sure you are counted as one of the people who wants to see that railway station fast-tracked.

There is so much more that can be done. We need to fix the Pimpama State Primary School car park. There are five additional bus bays desperately needed to overcome the bus stop debacle at Pimpama State Secondary College. We need additional bus stops. We need additional bus services on the northern Gold Coast. There is so much growth in Pimpama, yet no new bus services to speak of. The northern Gold Coast has been left behind for far too long. It is time now for them to shine.

(Time expired)