




Speech By
Hon. Stirling Hinchliffe

MEMBER FOR SANDGATE

Record of Proceedings, 11 August 2020

MINISTERIAL STATEMENT

Unite and Recover Community Stimulus Package

 **Hon. SJ HINCHLIFFE** (Sandgate—ALP) (Minister for Local Government, Minister for Racing and Minister for Multicultural Affairs) (10.00 am): As the Premier announced earlier, 1,500 jobs across South-East Queensland will be created or supported through the delivery of 63 projects under the Palaszczuk government's \$50 million Unite and Recover Community Stimulus Package for SEQ councils. This package is part of the Palaszczuk government's \$6 billion plan to unite and recover for Queensland jobs, and the positive effects of funding will be felt almost immediately. This package is an integral part of Queensland's plan to stimulate the economy at a time when economies across the globe are being forced to realign.

The Unite and Recover Community Stimulus Package will help our councils build new and upgraded infrastructure and give their local economies a boost. From Noosa to the Gold Coast and from Toowoomba to Moreton Bay, councils estimate more than 1,500 jobs will be created or supported through 63 projects for their communities. The projects approved under the program include: 48 projects to all 12 SEQ local governments, totalling \$24 million, under the allocation component of the program; and 15 projects to 11 local governments, totalling \$26 million, in new investment under the competitive funding pool.

I am very pleased with the types and quality of the projects that have been submitted as part of this process. These include \$1.5 million for Moreton Bay Regional Council to develop a new facility for the Pine Rivers BMX Club, a terrific local club that is the breeding ground for world champions, including the nine-time world champion, young Tom Tucker. I inspected the site with Mayor Flannery and the member for Pine Rivers to hear from the club members themselves about what the project will mean to them—club members including young Tom.

There is \$2.5 million to accelerate the green seal roads project on the Southern Moreton Bay Islands, seeing a further 8.3 kilometres of roads sealed in that area, something I know the community and the member for Redlands has been advocating very strongly for over a long period. Projects also include improvements to the Brisbane Valley Rail Trail, the Loganlea Road healthy street project, revitalising the Mooloolaba foreshore, Eildon Hill Reservoir improvements and Fairways Park stage 1C construction—just to name a few of the 63 terrific projects.

These are just some of the examples of the projects that will deliver jobs now, sustain jobs in the future and provide real community benefit in the long term. This is yet another example of how the Palaszczuk government is working in close partnership with local governments as we unite and recover.