



Speech By  
**Corrine McMillan**


**MEMBER FOR MANSFIELD**

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Record of Proceedings, 17 June 2021

**APPROPRIATION (PARLIAMENT) BILL**

**APPROPRIATION BILL**

 **Ms McMILLAN** (Mansfield—ALP) (12.09 am): I am proud to rise today to speak in support of the Appropriation Bill delivered by the Treasurer and Minister for Investment and member for Woodridge. I congratulate the Treasurer and his team. What a great budget it is for the Queensland we serve and for the good people of the electorate of Mansfield. This great Labor budget creates jobs, setting out a clear economic plan, attracting investment and building infrastructure—building the economy of the future. It is a budget that delivers the health and education infrastructure investment for the future success of young Queenslanders and for the prosperity of our great state.

A quality education transforms the lives of individuals, families and whole communities. When I was elected to this parliament, I vowed that I would strive to ensure that the Mansfield electorate became a hub of educational excellence. I am proud of the 19 schools in my electorate and the quality education that they provide. It is the reason young families flock to my electorate, with more than 100 young families moving to my electorate every month. Our \$16.8 billion for education in 2021-22 delivers on our election commitment to employ 6,190 new teachers and 1,139 teacher aides over the next four years. I congratulate our education minister on her courageous and decisive leadership around the money that has been expended on one of the most important pillars of our community.

The 2021-22 budget includes \$1.4 billion for new schools to open in 2023 and 2024, as well as for additional and renewed infrastructure in Queensland's existing state schools. We are delivering a \$24.156 million investment in new, modern school facilities in Mansfield. There is: \$10.5 million of \$17 million for a new building for Mansfield State High School; additional classrooms at Mansfield State School and Mackenzie State Special School; a new \$250,000 outdoor learning area at Wishart State School, as well as another new \$6.4 million building on top of the \$7.5 million new building, which includes classrooms and canteen, that is currently being built; a new hall at Rochedale State High School; a new \$15 million building for Rochedale State School; more than \$1 million for minor works and maintenance for schools in my community; the completion of the new building to replace the classrooms lost in the fire at Upper Mount Gravatt State School, as well as \$500,000 for a multipurpose sports facility; air conditioning and solar; and \$2 million to light state school ovals in my electorate as a trial project for our state. The Palaszczuk government has a clear vision for education in Queensland because education is the best investment that we can make for the future of Queenslanders and for the future prosperity of our great state.

The delivery of seven satellite hospitals, including one locally in Brisbane's south, to enable our acute hospitals to continue safely managing patients via alternative models of care worth \$265 million is welcomed by my community. Last year I joined the former minister for health and the Chief Health Officer to announce a \$12 million investment to establish a 24-bed ward at the QEII Hospital. A further \$22.4 million has been allocated for improved facilities at our local QEII Hospital. Queensland's health



response to this global pandemic has drawn accolades globally. On behalf of my community, I thank the Premier, the Minister for Health, the Deputy Premier and Dr Young, our Chief Health Officer, for their courageous and decisive leadership.

Social isolation and loneliness is a well-documented and researched New World issue identified prior to the pandemic but which has been exacerbated since COVID-19. Since my election in 2017, I have worked closely with the University of Queensland schools of psychology and sociology, the Mount Gravatt Community Centre and the Queensland Community Alliance to proactively address this important issue in my community. The employment of social workers locally—known as link workers—as part of our nation-leading Ways to Wellness program has attracted \$505,016 from the Palaszczuk government. I am proud of this program, the international interest it has attracted and the significant outcomes achieved to date for our local people. I am equally honoured to be chairing the parliamentary committee which will conduct a statewide inquiry into this important social issue that significantly impacts on the lives of Queenslanders and on the future economic prosperity of our state.

I am delighted to announce the following: \$287,000 for Southside Community Care; \$581,000 to INSYNC Mount Gravatt to deliver specialist homelessness services; \$722,000 to further enable the Mount Gravatt Community Centre to continue their tremendous work supporting our most vulnerable; 32 new social housing units to be built, which is a much needed addition for people in my community; and \$28,836 over the next four years to support my much loved Meals on Wheels service.

The Deputy Speaker has reviewed and approved my budget speech for incorporation. As such I ask that the remainder of my speech be incorporated in the *Record of Proceedings*.

*The speech read as follows—*

Mr Speaker it is also pleasing to see a strong commitment by the Palaszczuk Government to free TAFE to Queenslanders under 25. This is welcomed and will be valued immensely by the young people in my community.

The Mount Gravatt TAFE will receive a further \$3.4m upgrade to teaching spaces, maintenance and provide state of the art infrastructure.

The Back to Work and Skilling Queenslanders for Work Programs have afforded hundreds of people in my community the dignity of work. The Mt Gravatt Community Centre deliver many of the certificate courses that are part of these \$460 million Palaszczuk Government signature programs.

Police

And we're keeping Queenslanders safe.

The Palaszczuk Government will deliver an extra 2,025 police personnel over the next 5 years.

Transport and Main Roads

We are delivering another record investment in road and transport infrastructure, \$27.5 billion over 4 years supporting 24 000 jobs for Queenslanders.

- Upgrades to M1 Pacific Highway—the state's busiest road. The Pacific Motorway Eight Mile Plains to Daisy Hill upgrade will continue.
- \$1.5B in 2021/22 for Cross River Rail
- \$1.3 million for the Redland Sub-Arterial Road (Mt Gravatt Capalaba Road to Tingalpa Creek), widening, business case and
- \$4.47 million for the Upper Mount Gravatt Busway Station, design accessibility upgrade

Further, a \$500,000 commitment to begin the Priority Safety Upgrade to Ham Road for Mansfield State Primary and High School—this funding we expect will be matched by the Brisbane City Council under the Local Road Improvement Program.

Small Business

Small Businesses play an important role in my community. Our strong health response has meant that we can get back to business as usual. A \$950 million payroll tax relief package will assist small to medium sized businesses to create jobs in Queensland. Many small businesses in my Electorate have benefited from the interest free loans, 177 of the small businesses in my Electorate have received Palaszczuk Government Covid-19 Adaption Grants totalling \$1.8 million and will continue to access other supports when required.

Our strong health response in Queensland has ensured the foundations for the best possible economic recovery, the opportunity for our Government to borrow to invest. And the Palaszczuk Government's plan for economic recovery from COVID-19 begins with investing for job creation. The greatest investment any Government can make is in the people they serve.

We're focusing on growth sectors like renewable energy and hydrogen, and recommitting to highly successful programs such as Skilling Queenslanders for Work.

The budget strengthens the core pillars of the Palaszczuk Labor Government: healthcare, education, infrastructure, renewables and jobs.

It is a true Labor Budget: we are building more schools, better roads and a workforce for tomorrow, equipping Queenslanders with the skills they need to succeed and unlocking the opportunities our state requires to grow and flourish.



This is what Labor Governments do, and this is exactly what the people of Queensland elected Labor to do!

Mr Speaker, the Palaszczuk government's strong health response has put us on the road to economic recovery.

My community understands that strong and proven community leadership, and a good strong, stable government is what is needed at all times, but especially in times of a global economic and health pandemic.

I am proud to stand part of a Queensland Labor Government led by our Premier who has a vision for this great State of Queensland.

The 2021/22 State Budget ensures a progressive Queensland will be one more educated, more critical, healthier, more mobile and better prepared for the ongoing economic challenges which lie ahead. This will be the work of one Government, a Labor Government and the result of only one party—The Australian Labor Party.

I commend this Bill to the House.