




Speech By
Daniel Purdie

MEMBER FOR NINDERRY

Record of Proceedings, 13 May 2021

PRIVATE MEMBER'S STATEMENT

Ninderry Electorate, Federal Budget

 **Mr PURDIE** (Ninderry—LNP) (2.06 pm): I would like to reflect on the federal budget and what it means for residents living in my electorate and across the Sunshine Coast. Thanks to the federal Morrison government and our local federal MPs, it is good to see the Sunshine Coast benefit to the tune of more than \$170 million in this week's federal budget. It includes funding for major congestion-busting projects like the Mooloolah River interchange and the Beerburum to Nambour rail duplication. Both of these projects have significant implications for residents living in my electorate, getting them home sooner and safer.

This much needed injection of funds is in stark contrast to what the state Labor government has delivered for our region. Locally, we were promised investment in long overdue infrastructure in the lead-up to the last state election. The Labor candidate in my area was happy to spruik the government's intention to duplicate the Sunshine Motorway. In reality though, when the dust settled and the Treasurer delivered his long overdue budget in December, it became clear that the promised funding fell way short of the community's expectations. Of the initial \$1.3 million commitment, which will fund merely the initial planning, two-thirds will not be spent any time soon.

To reflect on the words of the Deputy Premier yesterday, it is the Queensland state budget that was disappointing—disappointing when the Sunshine Coast, like much of regional Queensland, is crying out for investment and infrastructure to help get our economy moving. Let us look at the irony of the Queensland Treasurer, who had the audacity to take aim at the Morrison government's significant investment in roads and transport infrastructure in our region, when it is abundantly clear that it is state Labor that has failed to deliver. I can assure members that this irony is not lost on the thousands of motorists who every day are forced to run the gauntlet on the Sunshine Motorway which is no longer fit for purpose.

For years, my LNP colleagues and I have been lobbying for funding for the duplication of the motorway, along with other major congestion-busting projects in my electorate—projects such as upgrades to Yandina Coolum Road and the Coolum roundabout. These are long overdue projects that continue to be ignored by the state Labor government.

While our population swells, the state Labor government prefers to play the blame game with the federal government in an attempt to divert attention away from its own abject failures. Yet again, we are seeing the federal government do all the heavy lifting when it comes to investing in infrastructure in our region. We have had four terms of a tired state Labor government that has continued to fail the Sunshine Coast. It is abundantly clear it has no economic plan for the state, no plan to invest in rapidly growing regions like the Sunshine Coast and no economic plan to support the residents of my electorate of Ninderry.