




Speech By
Hon. Mark Bailey

MEMBER FOR MILLER

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MINISTERIAL STATEMENT

Road and Transport Infrastructure

 **Hon. MC BAILEY** (Miller—ALP) (Minister for Transport and Main Roads) (9.54 am): Queensland is the place to be. Eighty-eight per cent of net migration in Australia in the next four years is heading our way. A Deloitte Access Economics report has forecast South-East Queensland's population to surpass five million people by 2041. Two-thirds of the region's growth will be in areas like Logan, Moreton Bay, Ipswich, the Redlands and, of course, the Gold and Sunshine coasts. We know that Queensland is the place to be because the Palaszczuk Labor government is rolling out record investments in major infrastructure to keep it that way. That investment is targeting congestion and building better road and transport connections where communities are growing.

In Logan, we partnered with industry to bust congestion at Wembley Road with the Logan Enhancement Project; we are progressing upgrades on the Mount Lindesay Highway; we delivered the M1 upgrade of the Gateway merge; and we are also upgrading the M1 between Eight Mile Plains and Daisy Hill, as anyone who takes that road can see. On the Gold Coast the \$1 billion Varsity Lakes to Tugun M1 upgrade is powering ahead. This year we will start building the light rail to Burleigh. We will also build three new Gold Coast train stations for Cross River Rail and we are expanding key park-and-rides in stations like Varsity Lakes and Coomera.

In Moreton Bay work is underway on the \$164 million Deception Bay interchange upgrade, along with the \$662 million project to build six lanes on the Bruce Highway from the Bribie Island exit to Steve Irwin Way on the way to the Sunshine Coast. There is \$2.1 billion locked in to transform the connection of the Gateway Motorway and the Bruce Highway, including building the new Moreton Connector. Five Bruce Highway upgrades worth more than \$3 billion and supporting more than 2,000 jobs are now underway between Brisbane and Gympie. On the Sunshine Coast, where we have two new fantastic members, the member for Nicklin and the member for Caloundra, work will start later this year on the Beerburum to Beerwah rail duplication and Labor's investment in Bells Creek Arterial Road will give growing communities south of Caloundra better road connections.

Other projects recently completed or underway include out in the Redlands the \$110 million Cleveland Redland Bay Road upgrade; the \$400 million Ipswich Motorway upgrade just completed; the Sumner Road interchange and Everton Park Link Road—cut by the previous government, completed by this government; the Strathpine interchange; the Petrie roundabout upgrade; and also the Centenary Bridge duplication to come. These projects are busting congestion and making our roads safer.

Tomorrow is Fatality Free Friday, a day to focus on safety and our collective responsibility as road users. Labor has a \$1 billion road safety program to make roads safer, educate drivers and reduce trauma, but everyone who uses our roads must play their part in doing so. Tragically, 102 people have lost their lives on Queensland roads this year. Behind that number are profound personal stories of hundreds more Queenslanders mourning the loss of loved ones and learning to live with life-changing injuries. As we head towards the weekend I sincerely urge every Queenslanders to make road safety their No. 1 priority.