



Speech By  
**Hon. Mark Bailey**


**MEMBER FOR MILLER**

---

Record of Proceedings, 27 October 2021

## **MINISTERIAL STATEMENT**

### **Railways, Manufacturing; Cross River Rail**

 **Hon. MC BAILEY** (Miller—ALP) (Minister for Transport and Main Roads) (9.57 am): The Palaszczuk Labor government's historic investment in Queensland trains will benefit the whole state. Building 65 trains in Maryborough has turned the city around—from ghost town, to boom town. It is not the only place winning big in terms of our record \$7.1 billion investment.

Today I can announce that the new Queensland train building program will support jobs across South-East Queensland, in construction, maintenance and operations. As part of the Palaszczuk Labor government's commitment to make trains in Queensland, we will also be building new maintenance and support bases on the Gold Coast and in the Moreton Bay region. Not only does making trains in Queensland create jobs in the Wide Bay region, in the electorates of the members for Maryborough and Hervey Bay, it supports workers in the south-east and supply chain jobs in Central Queensland—trains made by Queenslanders, for Queenslanders, supporting Queensland manufacturing jobs.

We will need these trains as South-East Queensland's population booms due to our world-leading response to the COVID pandemic and the growth that comes with it. We will need them for the 2032 Olympic and Paralympic Games. For growth and games, we are sending in the trains. The trains also support the transformational Cross River Rail line.

Today I can update the House on another exciting milestone on the Cross River Rail project. The first sections of track have been laid for the expansion of the Mayne yard train depot, being delivered as part of Cross River Rail. Once complete, this will allow 17 additional six-car trains to be stabled at the site, increasing capacity on the network.

I was down the track from there last week at Cross River Rail's northern portal with the member for Cooper, who joined me to see the incredible progress being made. From what looked like a pile of dirt in January, it is now forming as the runway for our final take-off in the year of tunnelling, as tunnel-boring machines Else and Merle carve their way out to see sunlight towards the end of this year. I can report that we are now just weeks away from the project's last breakthrough—well ahead of schedule.

Cross River Rail is supporting 7,700 jobs—built and 100 per cent funded by this government after it was cut by those opposite. The Palaszczuk Labor government gets things done! We get things done. We are committed to driving our economic recovery plan through record infrastructure investments which include the Cross River Rail project and by supporting local manufacturing jobs, not by sending them overseas. We are supporting Queensland workers in manufacturing as part of our Queensland train building program. We are proud of it and we will keep at it.