




Speech By
Bruce Saunders

MEMBER FOR MARYBOROUGH

Record of Proceedings, 12 May 2022

PRIVATE MEMBERS' STATEMENT

Maryborough Electorate

 **Mr SAUNDERS** (Maryborough—ALP) (2.15 pm): It is always a privilege to follow the member for Buderim because I am going to talk about the great news that is happening from the Palaszczuk government in the Maryborough electorate. I will follow the member for Buderim and talk about what is happening with roads. The minister is in the House today—

Mr Harper interjected.

Mr SAUNDERS: I will take that interjection from the member for Thuringowa. He is also the minister for the roads in the Maryborough electorate. We have some great road projects going on. I will talk, firstly, about the Pialba-Burrum Heads Road intersection upgrade. We dragged the federal government to this, and I mean we had to put the federal government into a headlock and drag them over to make sure they would put their money into that. We have got plans being done up now for O'Regan Creek on the same road that has been going on for years. The minister came up with me when cabinet met in Hervey Bay. We walked across it. We are getting the result now, with plans being drawn to lift this road to flood-proof Toogoom. They are just some of the things happening.

When you go outside Maryborough and drive out to Aldershot on the way to Howard and Torbanlea, you see the roadworks on the Bruce Highway. As I have said in this House many times, you know you are doing a good job when people come up to you and say, 'Can you cut the roadworks out, brother. Can you calm it down for a while.' Unlike the member for Buderim, who is always whingeing, we are welcoming the road network and road upgrades in the Maryborough electorate.

The other thing happening in the electorate is with TransLink. We had the Queensland Train Manufacturing Program people in the electorate for two weeks. What a great team from TMR and TransLink. They engaged with my people, and they engaged with the people of Torbanlea. They were at the Howard markets, the Maryborough markets and the shopping centre, explaining and telling people about this great program that is coming to the Fraser Coast and the Maryborough electorate. This is a great train building program. I know it is foreign to the members on the other side to build things in this state. We know that. They do not understand that. If they were in power, that TMR and TransLink team would have been overseas talking about where to build the trains, but they were in my electorate talking to the people there. That was really good engagement with the public.

Another thing happening in the wonderful electorate of Maryborough is the upgrade to the fire station. The first timber fire station in Queensland is nearly finished. The trees were grown and manufactured in the Maryborough electorate, and we have got a great fire station. Another thing that is happening is we are doing the final plans for the new railway station. The Palaszczuk government is investing again in regional Queensland. The minister is here, and we are looking at the new railway station at Maryborough West. The other thing is that ward 1 at the Maryborough Hospital was reopened by the Palaszczuk Labor government. It is fully staffed and fully looked after. This Labor government looks after regional Queensland.