




Speech By
Hon. Cameron Dick

MEMBER FOR WOODRIDGE

Record of Proceedings, 31 March 2022

MINISTERIAL STATEMENT

Federal Morrison Government

 **Hon. CR DICK** (Woodridge—ALP) (Treasurer and Minister for Trade and Investment) (9.50 am): The next time this House sits we will be in the final days of a federal election campaign, or the federal election may very well have been held. There is a lot at stake for Queensland on the outcome of this contest. In 2019 Queensland handed Scott Morrison a great victory. The LNP won more than three out of every four House of Representatives seats in Queensland. Queenslanders put their trust in Scott Morrison. Nearly three years on, that trust has been betrayed. At every opportunity, Scott Morrison has chosen words over actions. He has chosen announcement over delivery. He has chosen anyone else over Queensland.

Tuesday night's budget was just the latest—and perhaps greatest—demonstration of the disdain Scott Morrison shows for a state that he takes for granted. In the budget for his state of New South Wales, where he desperately needs to win seats, Scott Morrison has allocated \$1.3 billion for infrastructure investment over the next four years. In the same period, Queensland gets just \$446 million. We have two-thirds of the population of New South Wales but get one-third of the new infrastructure investment. Even the so-called 'signature projects' in Queensland are all signature and no project. The billion dollars of new money for Australian water projects across the forward estimates has to cover Scott Morrison's \$600 million commitment to Paradise Dam. That leaves just \$400 million for everything else in Australia, including the \$5.4 billion Hells Gates Dam. Scott Morrison's plan for Hells Gates is as real as the Queensland LNP's fake Bradfield scheme and the infamous Bruce Highway hoax.

Mrs Frecklington interjected.

Mr SPEAKER: Order, member for Nanango!

Mr DICK: Like Scott Morrison's park-and-ride pork barrel rort in 2019, they are not even pretending that it is a real commitment; it is just a set of words with nothing to back it up. Something has changed from 2019. Scott Morrison has squandered the benefit of the doubt that Queenslanders gave to him—just like Senator Concetta Fierravanti-Wells, who described him as a ruthless autocrat and bully with no moral compass and no conscience who is not fit to be Prime Minister. Queenslanders have figured him out and they do not like what they see, including what they saw in Tuesday night's budget where Queensland once again failed to get—

Mrs Frecklington interjected.

Mr SPEAKER: The member for Nanango is warned under the standing orders.

Mr DICK: Tuesday night's budget proved that Scott Morrison is out of touch with Queenslanders. It was a budget for the next six weeks and not for the next four years—a budget designed and built around Scott Morrison's future and not the future of Queensland. Queenslanders will not forget.