




Speech By
Hon. Mark Bailey

MEMBER FOR MILLER

Record of Proceedings, 22 February 2022

MINISTERIAL STATEMENT

Rail Infrastructure

 **Hon. MC BAILEY** (Miller—ALP) (Minister for Transport and Main Roads) (10.15 am): What a great day to be a Queenslanders. Our record spend on roads and rail is growing as we futureproof our transport systems for a booming population. That is why today's \$1.1 billion Logan and Gold Coast faster rail commitment is so important. As the Premier said, there are more and more people moving to Queensland because it is the place to be. A considerable number of these southern migrants are calling the south-east home. New and long-term Queenslanders will benefit from the Logan and Gold Coast faster rail project.

As part of the project we will see five level crossings removed, making it safer and faster for Logan residents to move about. We will lay 20 kilometres of new track to get express trains through faster. We will also build 400 additional car parks. Nine stations around Logan will be completely upgraded, making them more accessible for Logan parents with prams, seniors and people with disability. We will build an active transport system along the whole corridor for Logan residents who ride, run and walk.

Today's \$1.121 billion commitment from the Palaszczuk Labor government is half of what is needed for this important project for population growth and also for the games. That is why we are calling on the federal government to match our commitment fifty-fifty. We want to deliver the best possible outcome for the booming population in Logan and the Gold Coast. At a total cost of almost \$2.6 billion, the project will create over 900 Queensland jobs.

Like the Cross River Rail project, the Logan and Gold Coast faster rail project will help drive Queensland's economic recovery from COVID-19. Just last week I visited Sunshine Coast fencing supply company Fencepac, which is helping us deliver Cross River Rail. Fencepac director Toby gave me a tour of their Maroochydore yard and told me about the 10 full-time workers they have employed to work on Cross River Rail who live on the Sunshine Coast. He also told me about the five apprentices who are currently involved in the major project, with two more coming on board soon. Being involved in Cross River Rail has been great for Fencepac and the other more than 1,500 Queensland suppliers and subcontractors who have benefited from the project to date. Just imagine the number of trainees, apprentices, suppliers, contractors and subcontractors Logan and Gold Coast faster rail could support around the Logan area. I look forward to seeing the federal government getting on board and catching the express train to a funding commitment for Logan, for the Gold Coast and for Queensland.

Mr SPEAKER: Honourable members, I wish to advise the House that the reason for the slightly delayed start to question time is the number of Speaker's statements this morning. I wanted to ensure that time was not lost for ministerial statements.