



Speech By  
**Hon. Mark Bailey**


**MEMBER FOR MILLER**

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## **MINISTERIAL STATEMENT**

### **Zero Emission Vehicle Strategy**

 **Hon. MC BAILEY** (Miller—ALP) (Minister for Transport and Main Roads) (10.00 am): The Palaszczuk Labor government is committed to action on climate change and we are transforming transport in Queensland. We are doing this with a record \$27.5 billion investment in roads and transport, including projects like Cross River Rail and the second M1. We do not cut, we build.

Today we are further electrifying Queensland's future. This morning we are releasing our Zero Emission Vehicle Strategy which will power the state's transport system into the low-emissions future. A key component of this is supporting Queenslanders with a \$3,000 incentive towards new electric vehicles purchased for under \$58,000. The Palaszczuk Labor government will be offering up to 15,000 of these incentives over the next three years starting from 1 July this year.

Getting people into electric vehicles quicker cuts future emissions, cuts fuel imports and acts on climate change. With petrol prices now pushing as high as \$2.50 per litre in some places under the Morrison government, electric vehicles give Queenslanders far cheaper running costs, are more likely to hold their value in the long term and will help us get to net zero by 2050, all while creating a better environment and acting on climate change. This will make the air we breathe cleaner and our streets quieter. Importantly, this will also create a bigger second-hand market for electric vehicles, making them even more affordable to more Queenslanders sooner.

It does not stop there. The Palaszczuk Labor government is also investing a further \$10 million in electric vehicle charging infrastructure across Queensland. This will be delivered in partnership with local government and industry to provide Queenslanders with more places to charge their electric vehicles. This follows us leading the way in 2017 by building the Electric Super Highway.

Last year we announced we would be expanding the Electric Super Highway into Western Queensland to places like Longreach and Mount Isa. This means we will have the longest electric vehicle highway of any single state anywhere in the world. The strategy also reinforces our commitment to transitioning heavy vehicles, with every new TransLink bus on the South-East Queensland network to be zero emissions from 2025 and across regional Queensland from 2025 to 2030. We are already seeing that plan in action with electric buses hitting the road in Brisbane, the Bayside, the Gold Coast and soon the Sunshine Coast and Cairns.

We are doing all of this heavy lifting due to the void left by the Morrison government. The Morrison government has shown zero leadership on zero emissions vehicles. The economically irresponsible Prime Minister Scott Morrison has, of course, actively campaigned against electric vehicles. I am sure with strong state leadership, manufacturers will look beyond the Morrison government and bring more affordable electric vehicle models to Queensland and to our country. There is no doubt that the Zero Emission Vehicle Strategy announced today by the Palaszczuk Labor government will give them more confidence to do so.