




Speech By
Hon. Mark Bailey

MEMBER FOR MILLER

Record of Proceedings, 30 March 2022

MOTION

Sunshine Coast, Rail Infrastructure

 **Hon. MC BAILEY** (Miller—ALP) (Minister for Transport and Main Roads) (5.12 pm): No wonder there was such a big swing against the LNP in Kawana at the last election with contributions like that. I move the following amendment—

That all words after ‘has’ in the first paragraph be omitted and the following inserted:

‘announced \$1.6 billion for heavy passenger rail from Beerwah to the Sunshine Coast of which \$1.35 billion is beyond the forward estimates more than four years away from 2026-27 onwards;

2. the Minister for Transport and Main Roads is on the record as supporting a future heavy rail connection to coastal communities and has said it ‘is absolutely viable into Sunshine Coast in the future’ and is committed to delivering transport projects needed for population growth and to support a successful Brisbane 2032 Olympic and Paralympic Games via a collaborative governing state and federal framework;
3. a \$6 million Sunshine Coast rail business case is underway, jointly funded by the Queensland and Commonwealth governments, and any costings before completion are speculative;
4. conflicting versions of where the \$1.6 billion costing was sourced from based on public statements of the federal MPs for Fairfax and Fisher and calls on them to clarify the source of the costings they are using to inform Sunshine Coast residents;
5. of the \$1.6 billion pledged by the federal government in their election eve cash splash, only \$50 million will be available before the next federal election due in 2025; and

congratulates the members for Caloundra and Nicklin for their ongoing support and effective advocacy for critical transport projects needed for the Sunshine Coast.’

This is a Dixier scream motion if ever I saw one because what we have seen is a federal government that does not keep its election promises. It promised a federal ICAC and it reneged on it. It promised park-and-rides and it reneged on it. We know it cannot be trusted. This is a dodgily costed election bribe at the last minute by these federal MPs and supported by those opposite when their own budget papers show that most of the funding is off on the never-never, just like Geelong Fast Rail. There was a promise of \$2 billion from the federal government for a \$4 billion project in 2019 and then it descoped it as soon as the election was over. This is what it is doing to the Sunshine Coast. The fact is that we have two different versions from federal LNP MPs about the costings. The federal member for Fairfax, Ted O’Brien, said it was the North Coast Connect study and Andrew Wallace on ABC Radio—I love this; this is just fantastic—said—

... the costings that we’ve used for this project are based on the same calculations as the costings that they’re relying on for the Murrabie—

which he says twice—

extension ...

I have looked up ‘Murrabie’ and there is no such place, but in his defence he probably meant the Kuraby to Beenleigh rail extension. We have neighbouring MPs saying the costings are from two entirely different sources and we are supposed to think that this is a legitimate election promise. They did not

even rehearse! One would think that the Speaker of the House of Representatives and Ted O'Brien would get their fibs straight before they put them out into the public arena. We have two different stories. What this motion—

Honourable members interjected.

Mr SPEAKER: Pause the clock. Member for Buderim, I see you are prepped and ready to go. Can you keep your powder dry?

Mr BAILEY: What this motion is really about is the LNP is in trouble on the Sunshine Coast. It had big swings against it. The member for Buderim had the biggest swing. There were big swings across Kawana and there were big swings across Ninderry. It demoted the member for Ninderry. It demoted the member for Glass House. The member for Kawana just demoted the member for Maroochydore, so I will bet that they are not getting on too well. It lost Caloundra, it lost Nicklin and it knows that in the federal election it is up against it.

The primary vote for the LNP on the Sunshine Coast is in trouble. It is sandbagging safe seats. What does that tell members about the lazy LNP on the Sunshine Coast? It never delivers for its constituencies. It had three years in power when the member for Kawana was the attorney-general. What did it do for the Sunshine Coast? Zero! Here it is sprattling away at the last minute before a federal election. At two minutes to midnight it is making big promises on the Sunshine Coast. Sunshine Coast residents will see through this election ruse and bribe. The LNP is in trouble in Fairfax and it is in trouble in Fisher, and it knows it. It happened in the state election and it knows that it is going to happen in the federal election.