




Speech By
Hon. Mark Bailey

MEMBER FOR MILLER

Record of Proceedings, 22 June 2022

MINISTERIAL STATEMENT

Budget, Roads and Transport Infrastructure

 **Hon. MC BAILEY** (Miller—ALP) (Minister for Transport and Main Roads) (10.06 am): What an impressive budget handed down yesterday by the Treasurer! There were record levels of investment across the board, including for health—I know that is foreign to those opposite—and rail and roads. The Palaszczuk Labor government is proud to deliver the seventh record roads and transport budget in a row. Some \$29.7 billion will be invested over the next four years to support jobs and bust congestion across our growing state. This investment will support 25,200 jobs across Queensland. Most of those jobs—over 16,000 of them—will be in regional Queensland. This budget will see more works on the M1, the Bruce Highway and the \$2.1 billion Coomera Connector, or second M1—blocked by those opposite when they were in power.

In South-East Queensland, motorists can see how many major upgrades are going on, from the \$1 billion Varsity Lakes to Tugun M1 upgrade and the \$1 billion Daisy Hill to Logan Motorway M1 upgrade to come, to the \$262 million Caboolture to Steve Irwin Way upgrade—a six-laning project in the member for Pumicestone's area. We are delivering more lanes, better interchanges and safer driving across the south-east's major roads. On top of that, we are building a brand new highway, the Coomera Connector, which will deliver a second M1 between Logan and the Gold Coast. It will be the biggest road project in Queensland's history. This is no thanks to those opposite, who blocked it when they were in power. When the Leader of the Opposition was sitting at the cabinet table they blocked it—it was well reported—and they have not changed their view.

It is not just in the south-east where we are delivering major road upgrades. We are backing the Bruce. Just ask Bruce, or should I say the Assistant Minister for Regional Roads. He is a big supporter of projects like the \$1 billion Rockhampton Ring Road; the \$1 billion Gympie Bypass; the \$481 million Edmonton to Gordonvale Bruce Highway upgrade; the \$350 million Mackay Port Access Road; the \$230 million Townsville Ring Road stage 5 project in the Thuringowa electorate; and the \$336 million Tiaro Bypass on the Bruce Highway. We have 50 upgrades underway on the Bruce Highway right across this state.

Statewide, we will also see 83 new school crossing supervisors and \$40 million for the important School Transport Infrastructure Program, helping deliver school safety upgrades like stop-and-drop go zones, car parks and safer roads—a program that I would hope is supported by all members in this House to make our schools safer. We will be delivering a record \$3.5 billion worth of new rail projects along with record investments in active transport and marine infrastructure. We have some of the most beautiful coastline in the world, and don't our boaties know it!

This record investment on our roads complements the other record-breaking budget highlights in national parks, in schools and, most importantly, in our historic Queensland Health and Hospitals Plan—a record \$23.6 billion investment in our health system, including 249 new beds at the PA Hospital at Woolloongabba and 112 new beds at the QEII Hospital on the south side which are very welcome.

Knowing that the services people rely upon like public transport and like our hospitals are getting the funding they need, they are being funded fairly and they are being fully funded—not cut—is what our growing state needs. I am proud to be part of the Palaszczuk government delivering for the people of Queensland, not the savage cuts and horror budgets we saw under those opposite.