



Speech By  
**Hon. Mark Bailey**


**MEMBER FOR MILLER**

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Record of Proceedings, 30 August 2022

## **MINISTERIAL STATEMENT**

### **Department of Transport and Main Roads**

 **Hon. MC BAILEY** (Miller—ALP) (Minister for Transport and Main Roads) (10.10 am): The Palaszczuk government backs skills, opportunities and job development. This morning our commitment to initiatives like free TAFE and the Workforce Strategy to connect Queenslanders with good, secure jobs is clear. In Transport and Main Roads we foster an environment that supports staff to progress and encourages graduates, trainees and apprentices into the workforce right across the state.

TMR is currently recruiting for the next generation of graduate engineers, surveyors, accountants, environment officers and procurement professionals—71 to be precise. This is up from the last round of 48. These new recruits will join the team and become part of one of the country's best graduate programs, as voted by previous graduates. Not only that, but through our project delivery we are supporting contractors to onboard trainees and apprentices, building skills as they build roads and railways.

Through RoadTek, apprentices and trainees are engaged to support their qualification with good, secure employment. The department also offers a two-year schools based traineeship for Queensland's First Nations people. This initiative gives students the opportunity to work towards a vocational qualification. I am proud of the work that my department has undertaken in this space, with 215 apprentices and trainees currently employed over the past five years in the trades of construction, electrical engineering and business. More apprentices no doubt will work on the Queensland-made trains at Torbanlea near Maryborough, where the Premier, the assistant minister and I turned the first sod on early works last week.

We live, we train, we skill up and we employ. We do not cut like those opposite did. Some 2,800 Transport and Main Roads staff had their jobs cut by the members opposite. Look at them: the members for Broadwater, Kawana, Everton, Glass House, Surfers Paradise and Clayfield—the old gang is still here. Members can be assured that the Palaszczuk Labor government backs workers, backs jobs and backs pathways to work. With the new federal Albanese Labor government working cooperatively with Queensland, we will see more jobs and more skills for Queenslanders.