




Speech By
Michael Crandon

MEMBER FOR COOMERA

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ADJOURNMENT

M1, Exit 38

 **Mr CRANDON** (Coomera—LNP) (7.12 pm): This morning I joined my colleague the federal member for Forde, Bert van Manen, together with the Hon. Paul Fletcher, the Minister for Communications, Urban Infrastructure, Cities and the Arts and Senator Amanda Stoker at exit 38. Yes, this is about another exit upgrade. I have presided over exit 54 funding, exit 41 funding, exit 49 funding, exit 45 funding and now exit 38 funding. We have a federal commitment for \$55 million in 50 per cent matched funding. Coincidentally, my petition for exit 38 hit the table of this House this morning and I look forward to the minister's response.

The business case for exit 38 has been on his desk since November 2018, but there has been zero funding from this minister—not one dollar. Do members remember exit 41? There was no funding until the federal government came on board. For exit 49 there was no funding until the federal member came forward with 50 per cent funding. Those upgrades not only reduce congestion but also are about unlocking greater economic potential and, of course, they address the safety issues around ramping back onto the M1. Minister Paul Fletcher, member for Forde Bert van Manen and Senator Amanda Stoker are joining me and the people who live and work on the northern Gold Coast in calling on this minister and the Palaszczuk government to match the federal funding for the upgrade of exit 38.

While I am on my feet, I will outline a few failures by the current minister. The Minister for Transport and Main Roads has a total of about \$3.8 billion in blowouts which include: Gold Coast Light Rail stage 3, a \$500 million blowout; Coomera Connector, a \$600 million blowout; Cross River Rail, at least a \$2 billion blowout. He has overseen a blowout in the maintenance backlog, which is now at almost \$6 billion and he has no plan for new transport infrastructure beyond the forward estimates. I will add one more: exit 38.

Mr BAILEY: Madam Deputy Speaker, I rise to a point of order. Clearly there are erroneous comments made by the member. I find them personally offensive and I ask that they be withdrawn.

Madam DEPUTY SPEAKER (Ms Bush): Member, the member for Miller has found the comments offensive and asks that you withdraw.

Mr CRANDON: I withdraw. I will add one more blowout. In 2018 it was estimated that the exit 38 upgrade would cost \$87 million. Today, it will cost \$110 million and counting. This minister is stuck in the slow lane and it is costing Queensland in blowouts. I now look forward to his contribution to the adjournment debate. Hopefully, it will be to announce funding to match the federal government's \$55 million.