



Speech By  
**Hon. Dr Steven Miles**


**MEMBER FOR MURRUMBA**

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Record of Proceedings, 24 February 2022

## **MINISTERIAL STATEMENT**

### **Infrastructure Projects**

 **Hon. SJ MILES** (Murrumba—ALP) (Deputy Premier, Minister for State Development, Infrastructure, Local Government and Planning and Minister Assisting the Premier on Olympics Infrastructure) (9.42 am): The Palaszczuk government has been focused on our economic recovery from the unprecedented COVID-19 pandemic. The proof is in the pudding: our economic recovery plan is working—creating jobs for Queenslanders. We are ensuring the economic growth and resilience of our great state so industry and business have confidence to invest in Queensland to create jobs for Queenslanders. Why would they not? Queensland is the place to be.

There are more Queenslanders in jobs now than ever before—4.4 per cent unemployment and more than 17,400 jobs created in Queensland last month alone. We are experiencing significant investment in big transformative projects—projects like the \$5.4 billion Cross River Rail, transforming South-East Queensland's transport network. Better transport connectivity is crucial to continued growth, prosperity and creating jobs. There is the giant \$3.6 billion Queen's Wharf project that is shooting up beside us. At its peak, more than 1,500 workers will be on site.

Recently, restoration was completed of two of Queensland's most treasured buildings as part of the \$1.1 billion Herston Quarter redevelopment. For almost 100 years, the Lady Lamington and Edith Cavell heritage buildings were home to thousands of nurses before closing in 1993. They have now been restored and this month, for the first time in 30 years, will be home to many cohorts of new students, including nurses studying at RBWH.

More than 550,000 hours of local labour were used to restore the heritage buildings, including installing 850 linear metres of timber balustrade, 12,000 linear metres of verandah decking boards, painting 539 original doors, 230 pairs of new French doors and 318 original window frames, and the replacement of hundreds of panes of glass. The member for McConnel and I were blown away by the restoration works. I would urge members to go and see them for themselves if they get the chance. During construction, Hutchinson Builders training school saw 70 students complete their training onsite and get real-life experience working on a heritage redevelopment and learn a bit about Brisbane's history.

In the lead-up to the Brisbane 2032 Olympics, we will continue to see a pipeline of transformative infrastructure projects that will stimulate our economy and create jobs. The Palaszczuk government will continue to support infrastructure, provide for the future growth of Queensland and, in the process, create jobs for Queenslanders.