



Speech By
Hon. Dr Steven Miles

MEMBER FOR MURRUMBA

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MINISTERIAL STATEMENT

Budget, Infrastructure

 **Hon. SJ MILES** (Murrumba—ALP) (Deputy Premier, Minister for State Development, Infrastructure, Local Government and Planning and Minister Assisting the Premier on Olympics Infrastructure) (9.46 am): Yesterday, the Treasurer delivered a fantastic Labor budget on behalf of the Palaszczuk government and I congratulate him. It is a budget that builds our great state with a record infrastructure program. We have exceeded our infrastructure guarantee of \$50 billion and we are delivering \$59.1 billion in infrastructure over the next four years to create local jobs and deliver the key infrastructure Queenslanders need across our state.

The cornerstone of this budget is the historic Queensland Health and Hospitals Plan, including almost \$10 billion in hospital infrastructure building. The Palaszczuk government has always put the health and wellbeing of Queenslanders first. We did it through the pandemic, and we will continue to do it now as the whole country faces challenges delivering health care to a growing population. This is Queensland's solution to a national issue affecting health systems across the country. The Palaszczuk government has delivered the largest investment in new hospitals and new beds in Queensland's history. \$9.785 billion for 2,200 extra beds across 15 hospitals, plus 289 beds across existing facilities, fast-tracked over the next 24 months.

Mr Bailey: Huge!

Dr MILES: That is 2,509 extra beds. I take the interjection from the Transport Minister—it is indeed huge.

A government member: Awesome!

Dr MILES: And awesome! That is 209,000 extra beds across Queensland over the next six years. This is in addition to the 869 beds being delivered through current expansion projects, and builds on the 1,350 additional beds the Palaszczuk government has opened across the state since 2015.

We will build new hospitals in Bundaberg, Toowoomba, Coomera and a brand new Queensland cancer centre. We will expand the hospitals in Cairns, Robina, Mackay, Redcliffe, Ipswich and Hervey Bay as well as the PA, QEII and Prince Charles hospitals. In the beautiful Moreton Bay region we are delivering more investment in hospital upgrades and more money for services than ever before. We are delivering nearly \$400 million to upgrade Caboolture Hospital, bringing more services and more beds online, Redcliffe Hospital will get a dedicated paediatric department and the Pine Rivers satellite hospital is on track with more money in this year's budget to deliver it. This is an historic Labor budget for Queensland, one that delivers for the health and wellbeing of Queenslanders.