




Speech By
Hon. Dr Steven Miles

MEMBER FOR MURRUMBA

Record of Proceedings, 29 November 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) (9.46 am): The Palaszczuk government is invested in supporting strong communities in every corner of our state. Our highly dispersed state is what sets us apart from all the other states and gives Queensland its vibrancy and diversity. I am pleased to announce a new round of projects that will get off the ground in Queensland's most remote regions, with backing from our \$1.5 billion 2021-2023 Remote Area Boards program. These projects are set to advance opportunities for tourism, jobs, clean energy and investment and help these remote communities get the activities and services they need. Queensland's five Remote Area Boards represent 60 per cent of the state, playing a vital role in supporting remote regions with limited resources. We greatly value the work they do to drive economic growth and improve life in Queensland's most remote communities. Our RAB funding is bridging the resourcing gap and helping to grow investment as well as economic and employment opportunities in parts of the state that might otherwise have missed out.

This exciting round of projects reaches the state's Far North, where the Torres Cape Indigenous Council Alliance has been allocated \$79,000 to progress Indigenous ecotourism developments in the Cape, Torres and Gulf region. The Mount Isa to Townsville Economic Development Zone has received \$270,000 to develop a carbon emissions strategy. The South West Queensland Regional Organisation of Councils has been allocated \$55,000 to build its tourism industry and \$95,000 to raise the region's profile as an investment and lifestyle destination ahead of the Brisbane 2032 Olympic and Paralympic Games.

In Central Western Queensland, the Remote Area Planning and Development Board will receive \$120,000 for a study into water for economic development and a \$30,000 grant to develop new content for the FarOut campaign, providing job opportunities in the region.

Finally, Gulf Savannah Development has been allocated \$270,000 for an electricity and energy options analysis and plan to meet the region's future requirements around decarbonising electricity generation. This funding means remote regions can get on with the job of rolling out important initiatives like these regardless of location. It is geared towards creating good jobs, economic development and a brighter future for communities right across Queensland.