




Speech By
Charis Mullen

MEMBER FOR JORDAN

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PRIVATE MEMBER'S STATEMENT

Centenary Motorway

 **Mrs MULLEN** (Jordan—ALP) (2.16 pm): Recently and with little fanfare two full lanes opened near the Centenary Motorway and Logan Motorway interchange. That stretch of the Centenary Motorway near Carole Park has been a notorious congestion hotspot for many years. I am pleased to report that traffic is now flowing. The upgrade of the Centenary Motorway and Logan Motorway interchange is a project for which I have strongly advocated, even before my election as the member for Jordan. It is a project I am proud to have delivered as part of the Palaszczuk Labor government, and I wish to thank Minister Bailey for his support and the \$15 million commitment to see this interchange upgraded.

I was frequently asked, 'Who in their right mind thought it was a great idea to have a road that went from two lanes, merged into one lane and then split again into two highway ramps?' It was certainly before my time, but I did not need to search too hard to find the answer. It was the LNP Newman government. In 2012 the then LNP minister for transport and main roads touted a rescope of upgrades to the Centenary Motorway. Some of this new scope of works made good sense, and I am not one to be unfair. However, it never made any sense to have a road go from two lanes into one and back into two. The LNP simply cut costs and did not finish the job, something I am pleased to say we have now done.

In the same media release of 10 October 2012 in which the minister was spruiking his rescope, he also referenced removing Labor's 'gold plating' and finding savings. We all know what this means: cuts. In this instance it was a big cut, seven kilometres of a proposed bikeway connecting the Centenary cycleway to Springfield. When it comes to the cycleway, I recognise its importance and I am working closely with the minister and the Department of Transport and Main Roads on getting it back into our planning.

At this time we have a number of projects underway on the Centenary Motorway: the almost \$300 million on the Centenary Bridge upgrade at Jindalee; the \$6.5 million upgrade of exit 32 at Springfield Central; the \$10 million for a master plan for the Centenary Highway from Darra to Toowong; and the \$1 million planning study currently underway on the Centenary Motorway from Darra to Yamanto. It concerns me greatly that all of these important projects for the Centenary Highway will be under threat if the LNP are elected. The shadow transport and main roads minister has made it very clear that they have already identified a couple of billion dollars worth of savings. The Leader of the Opposition has already said he has a debt reduction strategy—\$10 billion of cuts—and the people of Queensland and my electorate deserve to know what they will be cutting.

The Leader of the Opposition is also refusing to say whether he will support ongoing progressive royalties beyond the forwards. He can call it 'prune back', but it is simply cuts. The LNP clearly have a plan to slash funding from crucial road projects and I fear what it will mean for the significant projects that our Labor government has committed and that are underway for the Centenary Motorway.