



Speech By  
**Jarrold Bleijie**


**MEMBER FOR KAWANA**

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Record of Proceedings, 30 November 2023

**PRIVATE MEMBER'S STATEMENT**

**Federal Labor Government, Infrastructure Funding**

 **Mr BLEIJIE** (Kawana—LNP) (Deputy Leader of the Opposition) (2.00 pm): I say to the House that the Deputy Premier is miles away from reality. We saw the confected outrage weeks ago when the federal Labor government announced Labor cuts to infrastructure across Queensland. We had the confected outrage; they were angry about all the Labor cuts. Then the Deputy Premier said, 'I'm going to lead a delegation to Canberra,' and that delegation happened yesterday. He left half the delegation on the tarmac, and then he spent most of the time sipping wine, having a good time, on the public dime, at the National Press Club.

He came back today and he is all excited. He is like, 'I packaged this deal up that I got at this delegation yesterday.' I thought, 'Where have I heard this before? Where have I heard of this great announcement that he is now singing that he achieved at the delegation yesterday?' Well, it was in the federal infrastructure cuts report the Labor Party produced two weeks ago. It is already public. The federal Labor government in their own document, which I will table in a minute, said, 'The following projects will proceed through planning, with remaining funding reserved for construction ... Direct Sunshine Coast Rail Line'. It said the 'Australian government funding for planning' was \$160 million and the 'Australian government funding set aside for construction' was \$1.44 billion.

*Tabled paper:* Extract from document, undated, detailing Queensland road infrastructure projects to receive Australian Government funding [2066](#).

It was already committed to and spoken about two weeks ago. He had this huge outrage two weeks ago, he went to Canberra and had a little wine on the public dime, and he has come back like this is a great announcement. Nothing has changed. This announcement was made two weeks ago by the federal government. The state Labor government are not putting one dollar into construction of the Sunshine Coast heavy passenger rail.

**Mr Crisafulli:** When?

**Mr BLEIJIE:** I take the interjection from the opposition leader. When? When is the state government going to put money into the Sunshine Coast heavy passenger rail? As I said, there was outrage two weeks ago at this announcement and now he is trying to claim it as his own announcement today. It was the federal Labor party that cut the funding and projects across Queensland. With the Deputy Premier leading that delegation, I would have expected him to come back and say that projects that were actually being cut by Labor would be reintroduced and recommitted to—but, no. The only deal he got from Canberra was the deal the federal government put on the table two weeks ago. That is not a good deal for Queensland. That is a done deal already.

Then the Deputy Premier said, 'It's great that the quantum of funding is not cut to Queensland.' The minister, Catherine King, said that two weeks ago anyway. The reality is that the Labor Party are cutting funding because the Labor Party are the kings of cuts. We have Treasurer Dick, Minister Bailey and Minister Miles as the kings of cut in Queensland, but we can change it next year.

**Mr BAILEY:** Mr Deputy Speaker, I rise to a point of order.

**Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER** (Mr Martin): Pause the clock.

**Mr BAILEY:** Once again, he is using my surname. He knows it is against the standing orders and I ask him to use correct titles.

**Mr BLEIJIE:** I said 'Minister Bailey' again.

**Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER:** Thank you, Minister. I remind all members to use correct titles. I would say, though, that 'Minister Bailey' is within the standing orders. Member, you have two seconds on the clock.

**Mr BLEIJIE:** Show Labor the door in '24. Show this incompetent Minister Bailey the door in '24.

*(Time expired)*