




Speech By
Hon. Mark Bailey

MEMBER FOR MILLER

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MINISTERIAL STATEMENTS

Road Infrastructure; Digital Drivers Licences

 **Hon. MC BAILEY** (Miller—ALP) (Minister for Transport and Main Roads) (9.54 am): The Palaszczuk Labor government is delivering a record level of road infrastructure investment and making it easier for Queenslanders to get home safer and sooner. We are doing this through mega upgrades to major arterials and by delivering better services. It was a pleasure to join the member for Mount Ommaney, the federal member for Oxley and Speaker of the House of Representatives at the Centenary Bridge in Jindalee this morning. Together we put the first shovels in the ground to start work on the \$298 million Centenary Bridge duplication.

This project will deliver six lanes across the Brisbane River from Jindalee to Kenmore and create improved entrances and exits to the Centenary Motorway. We know it is a bottleneck for the south-western suburbs and that is why we are getting on to fix it. I thank the member for Mount Ommaney for her advocacy. This follows our \$80 million upgrade to the Sumners Road Interchange on the Centenary Highway, which we finished six months early and which was cut by the Newman-Crisafulli government.

Opposition members interjected.

Mr BAILEY: That one landed, didn't it? We are also looking to the future, with a \$10 million planning study on options for the Centenary Motorway between Toowong and Darra.

The road milestones do not stop there. This morning southbound traffic has been switched on the M1 between Palm Beach and Tugun to allow for the reconstruction works of 2½ kilometres of existing roadway and the replacement of M1 bridges over Currumbin Creek Road and Sarawak Avenue—all as our works ramp up on the \$1 billion southern Gold Coast M1 upgrade. We will not ignore it, like the previous government did.

On the way to the Sunshine Coast, we are nearing completion of the Deception Bay interchange upgrade which was so strongly advocated for by the member for Kurwongbah and other members there. We also have the Bells Creek Arterial Road, which is a great achievement from the member for Caloundra, and isn't he doing a great job? Work will be finished this year on the massive Edmonton to Gordonvale Bruce Highway upgrade south of Cairns and the Townsville northern access upgrade on the Bruce Highway.

It is not just roads that we are improving. We are also delivering better services through the rollout of digital licences. Today I can announce the next phase of the rollout will arrive in Townsville later this month, starting with business groups and government agencies before it moves across the rest of the city from next month.

Mr Minnikin: Tick-tock.

Mr BAILEY: They may interject but they did nothing about it.

Mr ACTING SPEAKER: Comments will come through the chair, Minister.

Mr BAILEY: Queensland's digital licensing app will be the first in Australia to meet international standards and will be recognised when Queenslanders travel abroad. It will also have the most rigorous security measures—

Opposition members interjected.

Mr ACTING SPEAKER: Order! I know we are all excited about the big pay rise we are getting on 1 November thanks to all of those wine bottles, but I would ask the House to maintain good order.

Mr BAILEY: Queensland's digital licences also will have the most rigorous security measures of any digital licensing app in the nation. That is very important after we saw the Optus breaches and other data breaches. We already have other states and even other countries approaching Queensland for advice because they want to adopt the system that we have created. We are on track for digital licences to be available to all Queenslanders by the end of this year.

Whether it is upgrading roads, upgrading rail or offering better services, it is the Palaszczuk Labor government that delivers on the infrastructure we need for a booming population—not cuts, slashing or pruning.