




Speech By
Hon. Mark Bailey

MEMBER FOR MILLER

Record of Proceedings, 29 November 2023

MINISTERIAL STATEMENT

Rail Infrastructure; Digital Driver's Licence

 **Hon. MC BAILEY** (Miller—ALP) (Minister for Transport and Main Roads and Minister for Digital Services) (9.56 am): The Cross River Rail project has benefited more than 2,100 subcontractors to date, including 1,577 Queensland businesses. The project has also supported 421 apprentice and trainee opportunities. Through Cross River Rail and disability compliant trains made in Maryborough, we are backing Queensland workers and setting a new benchmark for accessibility for our transport network. With the Dutton Park to Salisbury station accessibility upgrades, the Yeronga and Fairfield stations already open and fully built, three new Gold Coast stations, 12 completed Queensland Rail station accessibility upgrades—not actually eight; I undersold it yesterday in the House—and the new Cross River Rail underground and full-time Ekka stations, we have about 30 accessible stations delivered, in delivery or in the planning phase.

I am proud to be part of a government that fully supports the one in five Queenslanders with a disability and that consistently invests in Queensland workers. We have seen that investment across the state. The Logan and Gold Coast Faster Rail project has been subject to negotiations between the state and federal governments due to the cost pressures being felt across all states and territories. Following the federal government's online publication of the revised figure, I can confirm to the House that the project estimate is now \$5.7 billion. Any adjustments to total project estimates are usually released as part of each governments' respective budget processes. When we receive formal confirmation from the Commonwealth and confirm Queensland's investment as part of our midyear budget update, I will confirm updated project funding. This is the normal process as outlined in national partnership agreement documents. We have been fighting to ensure that this critical rail double-track duplication between Kuraby and Beenleigh is funded—

Opposition members interjected.

Mr SPEAKER: Sorry, minister. Members to my left, I am having difficulty hearing the minister. You will cease your interjections or you will be warned under the standing orders.

Mr BAILEY: We will continue to fight for all our Queensland projects. I spoke yesterday about the Palaszczuk government's Queensland made trains in Maryborough. I am pleased to report today that the Palaszczuk government's digital licence is also Queensland made. Thales, the global technology and security expert which led the app development, was supported by two Queensland-based tech companies, Code Heroes and Aliva. The Palaszczuk government's digital licence is the first Australian digital licence to comply with the international ISO security standard. That means it has world-class security and is easy to use overseas.

Over 216,000 Queenslanders are now on board with our digital licence, and this number is growing every single day. The digital licence is not only better for customers but also better for Queensland businesses, with over 100,000 downloads of the verifier app as well as the 216,000 downloads of the licence itself. Whether it is delivering on a more accessible transport network or a world-class digital licence with the highest standard in the nation, I am proud to be part of a government that delivers nation-leading services that are built by Queenslanders for Queenslanders—and not cuts.