




Speech By
Hon. Mark Bailey

MEMBER FOR MILLER

Record of Proceedings, 29 November 2023

MOTION

Sunshine Coast

 **Hon. MC BAILEY** (Miller—ALP) (Minister for Transport and Main Roads and Minister for Digital Services) (6.02 pm): The member for Kawana should never attempt falsetto in the Legislative Assembly. It is interesting to look at the LNP party room when he speaks. Two-thirds of them are disinterested, looking away, embarrassed, winking at other people. They are embarrassed that he is their No. 2. This is a sign of the weak leadership of the Leader of the Opposition. He thinks the second most talented member in the opposition is the member for Kawana. That is the view of the Leader of the Opposition.

Mr Boothman interjected.

Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER (Mr Kelly): Order, member for Theodore.

Mr BAILEY: It is not the view of any other member of the LNP party room.

Dr Rowan interjected.

Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order, member for Moggill.

Mr BAILEY: We can tell this when we look at the faces over there when the member for Kawana speaks.

Ms Pease interjected.

Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order, member for Lytton.

Mr BAILEY: Most of them are embarrassed. Why would they be embarrassed? They are not just embarrassed about his style, which is ridiculous; they are embarrassed about his pathetic record as an MP on the Sunshine Coast.

Honourable members interjected.

Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order! Members, I have been calling for order repeatedly and I am being ignored while I am taking some advice. I will start to warn people.

Mr BAILEY: Thank you, Mr Deputy Speaker. Rather than actually hear a debate, they try to scream down speeches and it is not acceptable.

Let me go to the embarrassing record of the member for Kawana and the other LNP members who were part of the Newman government when they had a record majority in this state. What did they do for the Sunshine Coast? Absolutely nothing. They did nothing. They cut everything on the Sunshine Coast, despite having entire membership. That is their record, and their vote has been going down ever since. This government has now got two very effective members in the member for Nicklin and the member for Kawana. Going down to Pumicestone, we have the member for Pumicestone who is a very effective member. They are people who stand up for their communities. We do not cut projects; we actually get things done.

Mr Lister interjected.

Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER: The member for Southern Downs is warned.

Mr BAILEY: It is just embarrassing to see. We got nothing progressed on the Sunshine Coast on direct heavy line under successive LNP governments in Canberra. Now that we have a business case and we are actually getting close to completing that and getting a scope and a costing, suddenly they are the biggest converts. We know the LNP are supportive of a heavy rail project when they are in opposition; they never do it in government. They always cut. Cross River Rail was cut by the Leader of the Opposition, cut by the member for Kawana, cut by the member for Maroochydore.

Opposition members interjected.

Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER: Pause the clock. Resume your seat, please, Minister. Member for Chatsworth, member for Moggill, member for Kawana, you are all warned under the standing orders.

Mr BAILEY: All they have got to offer after being cleaned out in Nicklin and Caloundra is to recycle the old failed member for Nicklin. That is their big solution.

The other interesting thing about this debate is the defensiveness of it. They are concerned about their own vote on the Sunshine Coast and that is why they have this motion in the first place. We have the defensiveness of the Leader of the Opposition—whether he is not answering questions, having no policies at the Media Club or moving a motion about an area where their vote is on the slide. It is a defensive, myopic, insular approach by the Leader of the Opposition who has got no vision, no policies, nothing of substance and no depth to offer Queenslanders.

I urge members here to support the amendment and to oppose the motion which is full of politics. Mooloolah River Interchange: are you kidding? They did nothing on the MRI when they were last in power. It is this Labor government that has led the way on the MRI. Bribie Island Road? Forget about it. Why is the electorate of Pumicestone held by Labor? Because we stand up for that electorate and we are getting it done with an effective member. Why did the LNP get voted out of that seat? Because they had someone who did not do anything. Why did we get the Mons Road-Maroochydore Road interchange upgrade done? Because we drove it from the state government point of view. Why do we have a mass transit strategy with the council? Because this government believes in the Sunshine Coast and working with local government, not picking fights with the mayor like the member for Kawana does, left, right and centre, along with all those veteran and ineffective members of the Sunshine Coast. They are even giving their new members bad tips. The members for Ninderry and Buderim are getting bad habits from members who are ineffective.

What we need on the Sunshine Coast is infrastructure, funded by Labor. Queenslanders know we will build it because we will fund it. We will not cut it like the member for Chatsworth, who said there are going to be billions in cuts, billions in pruning. They said that themselves. They are their own words. I am encouraged by this motion from a defensive and negative opposition leader.