




Speech By
Hon. Dr Steven Miles

MEMBER FOR MURRUMBA

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MINISTERIAL STATEMENT

Budget, Infrastructure

 **Hon. SJ MILES** (Murrumba—ALP) (Deputy Premier, Minister for State Development, Infrastructure, Local Government and Planning and Minister Assisting the Premier on Olympic and Paralympic Games Infrastructure) (9.47 am): I add my condolences to those offered by the Premier to the families of those who have lost loved ones in that horrible bus crash in the Hunter Valley.

Yesterday's budget confirmed that we are transforming our state through major projects. The Palaszczuk government is delivering Queensland's Big Build. Over the next four years the Palaszczuk Labor government will invest \$89 billion to create more jobs, new industries, better communities and stronger regions and more than half of our investment is in regional Queensland. The Palaszczuk government is kicking off our Big Build with more than \$20 billion over the next year, supporting 58,000 jobs. We will be delivering transformational projects as well as more and better essential services. Seizing opportunities is something Queensland has always been good at, ensuring each generation of Queenslanders gets an even better go at making a better life for themselves than the last. If we do not build big now we risk losing the great Queensland lifestyle we know and love.

In the lead-up to Brisbane 2032, when the world's eyes will be on us, we will invest \$7.1 billion in the games infrastructure program, shared with the Australian government. We will build the \$5 billion CopperString 2032 project—a 1,100-kilometre transmission line from Townsville to Mount Isa, connecting North-West Queensland to the national energy grid. This will unlock opportunities for massive renewable energy and critical minerals projects in the north and north-west.

Our transport services are being transformed by projects such as Cross River Rail, the largest transport project ever undertaken in Queensland. We are upgrading the M1 and Bruce Highway and constructing the Coomera Connector and Gold Coast Light Rail stage 3. We are bringing manufacturing home to Queensland, establishing the Queensland Train Manufacturing Program in Maryborough. Water infrastructure projects will be delivered in our regions like Bundaberg, Rockhampton and Townsville. We are also making sure Queenslanders have the essential services they need. There will be more hospital beds and services thanks to a nearly \$10 billion investment at 15 facilities across the health system. In the south-east seven satellite hospitals are being delivered, bringing better care closer to home. There will be better infrastructure for the delivery of more housing and more schools.

People are moving to Queensland in droves for our great lifestyle, our growing industries and the thousands of jobs we are creating here. That growth gives us an opportunity for more and better infrastructure to maintain our lifestyle and our economic prosperity. That is why the Palaszczuk government is delivering the Big Build. Of the \$20.3 billion to be invested this coming year, more than 65 per cent goes to regions outside of the Greater Brisbane area. It is a big build and it means Queenslanders can look forward to an even bigger and brighter future.