




Speech By
Hon. Dr Steven Miles

MEMBER FOR MURRUMBA

Record of Proceedings, 16 June 2023

MINISTERIAL STATEMENT

Budget, Infrastructure Projects

 **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) (9.38 am): Our budget is a budget for all Queenslanders. From the cape to Currumbin, Burketown to Birdsville, Queensland's Big Build is delivering infrastructure for communities across the state. This is only possible because of our progressive coal royalties.

Queenslanders own the state's mineral resources, and they deserve to get their fair share from current high coal prices, particularly regional communities. Our coal-producing communities have been the backbone of our economy for generations. The communities of Isaac, Central Highlands, Banana, Western Downs and the Whitsunday local government areas have played such an important role in Queensland's economic strength for so long. It is only right that we invest in infrastructure for these communities to improve their livability.

The people in these far-reaching parts of Queensland deserve their fair share of the coal royalties, so I am very pleased that the budget included an allocation of \$120 million for the Resources Community Infrastructure Fund. These five communities will be eligible to share in \$120 million to support the construction of important community infrastructure. Previous rounds have funded affordable housing in Moranbah, a clinical training facility in Chinchilla and a football club upgrade in Collinsville. It has also funded a new Woorabinda Community Hub and Disaster Recovery Centre, a children's services hub in Julia Creek and a new aeromedical facility in Mount Isa. Unlike previous rounds, round 3—which is worth \$120 million—will be fully funded by the Queensland government.

I am looking forward to seeing the projects put forward for funding and to see them come to life in these communities. From our record investment in health, housing and cost-of-living relief, to Queensland's Big Build, the Palaszczuk government's budget is a budget for all Queenslanders.