



Speech By  
**Hon. Dr Steven Miles**


**MEMBER FOR MURRUMBA**

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Record of Proceedings, 28 November 2023

## **MINISTERIAL STATEMENTS**

### **Federal Labor Government, Infrastructure Funding**

 **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) (9.44 am): Queensland has embarked on the biggest decade of infrastructure delivery in our history—our Big Build. It is needed because Queensland is leading the nation in growth. We are delivering the projects that Australia's economy needs, from the Energy and Jobs Plan to CopperString 2032 and major transport infrastructure like Cross River Rail as well as Bruce Highway upgrades and our Brisbane 2032 infrastructure legacy. The Big Build is creating jobs, improving services, protecting our lifestyle, growing our economy, boosting our regions and helping secure a brighter future for our kids. Over half of the Big Build is in regional Queensland.

The Palaszczuk government is standing up for our fair share of funding, to get what was promised and to deliver the projects Queenslanders need. That is why tomorrow I will be taking a delegation of Queensland mayors in Canberra to meet with the federal infrastructure minister, to ensure Queensland is not worse off. We have already had to go it alone on major infrastructure projects like Cross River Rail, under the former Morrison government—a project that would have been built and jointly funded now if the LNP had not rejected Australian government funding. Our government is on the side of Queenslanders and will always put Queenslanders first.

Queensland is already delivering billions in additional revenue to the Australian government. If the Australian government needs to look at cuts to reduce inflation, it should look elsewhere. Infrastructure cuts are not the solution. In fact, investment in infrastructure that increases productivity is likely to reduce pressure on inflation over the longer term, and that would be especially true when it comes to Queensland. Every one of our road and rail upgrades and extensions is needed to keep Queensland moving. We are already experiencing extraordinary population growth, and this growth will accelerate due to the Australian government's expanded migration program. That is why we should be getting more funding from the Australian government, not less, so we can keep delivering Queensland's Big Build.