




Speech By
Hon. Dr Steven Miles

MEMBER FOR MURRUMBA

Record of Proceedings, 30 November 2023

MINISTERIAL STATEMENT

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) (9.43 am): Queensland is booming. We have begun the biggest decade of infrastructure delivery in our state's history. On this side of the House, we are delivering the projects that Queensland needs through our Big Build. We are delivering more Bruce Highway upgrades, reducing commuter times and making our roads safer. We are investing in major transport infrastructure, like Cross River Rail and Bruce Highway upgrades, freeing up space on our roads, improving road safety and making it easier for Queenslanders to get where they need to go.

There are a range of Queensland infrastructure projects that benefit from federal funding, and that is why we need to ensure that Queensland gets a fair deal. Yesterday on behalf of Queensland I travelled to Canberra with a delegation of Queensland mayors and industry representatives to meet with the federal infrastructure minister about Queensland's—

Opposition members interjected.

Mr SPEAKER: Order, members to my left!

Honourable members interjected.

Mr SPEAKER: I will wait for the House to come to order.

Mr Skelton interjected.

Mr Brown interjected.

Mr SPEAKER: Thank you, member for Nicklin and member for Capalaba. You are both warned under the standing orders.

Dr MILES: Yesterday on behalf of Queensland I travelled to Canberra with a delegation of Queensland mayors and industry representatives to meet with the federal infrastructure minister about Queensland's need for federal infrastructure support and funding.

Mr Crisafulli interjected.

Mr SPEAKER: Leader of the Opposition, you will cease your interjections and if you do not put those comments through the chair I will warn you under the standing orders.

Dr MILES: Queensland is well served by our local governments and mayors, and the mayors all strongly put their case for the needs of their region. Mayor Butcher from Lockhart River told the minister how the Peninsula Developmental Road was changing the lives of First Nations people on the cape and Torres Strait. Mayor Harding from Ipswich put the perspective of one of the fastest growing communities in Australia. Acting Mayor Richard Baberowski represented the Sunshine Coast, putting

the case for new public transport and road upgrades. They all did their communities proud. Gary Mahon from the Trucking Association put the views of our truckies and road freight industry about the importance of roads for productivity, safety and cost of living.

Following a productive meeting with federal minister Catherine King, I am pleased to inform the House that we received a number of commitments from the Australian government. The Direct Sunshine Coast Rail Line will be prioritised as part of the transport program for the 2032 games. The Australian government has reserved \$1.44 billion for the construction of this project. This is in addition to the \$160 million available for the business case, planning and early works on the project.

Mr Mickelberg interjected.

Mr SPEAKER: The member for Buderim will cease his interjections.

Dr MILES: The Australian government have also confirmed their commitment to the inland freight route, also known as the Second Bruce. Earlier this week the transport minister announced we are kickstarting early works on the Second Bruce, including priority upgrades to this critical freight route. The Palaszczuk government has brought forward our funding for this critical project.

In addition, the Australian government have confirmed there will be no reduction in Australian government funding to Queensland over time. The Australian government's commitment to fund new projects on a 50-50 basis will not result in less funding being provided to Queensland overall. Where the Australian government have committed to fund existing projects on an 80-20 basis, that funding split will not change. They have agreed to work together with us to prioritise projects required for the Brisbane 2032 Olympic and Paralympic Games. The 2032 games provides an opportunity to deliver a significant infrastructure legacy across South-East Queensland, delivering more jobs, housing and transport infrastructure. The Australian government will consider proposals for future projects once we have completed scoping, planning and costing.

While there remain outstanding issues, which the Premier will raise at National Cabinet next week, I am pleased the delegation was able to make some progress. I thank the mayors and industry representatives, CoMSEQ and the LGAQ for their support.