




Speech By
Steve Minnikin

MEMBER FOR CHATSWORTH

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MOTION

Infrastructure

 **Mr MINNIKIN** (Chatsworth—LNP) (4.30 pm): I am incredulous that the ALP has the audacity to bring before the House a motion pertaining to infrastructure cuts, because there was a member who interjected earlier in this debate who has a track record for frivolous interjections, and that is the member for Miller. Let's have a look at the 'greatest hits' when it comes to infrastructure blowouts. I believe the figure is around \$4 billion for the Olympic Games. How amazing is it that there is a member on the opposite side of the chamber who could have funded the Olympics two times over through blowouts. Let's run through it: \$2.5 billion extra for New Generation Rolling Stock, but let's keep going—nearly a billion. These are not figures that have been written out on the back of a cornflakes box—\$10 billion, 11, 9, 8—this is sheer nonsense. It is a waste of this assembly's time. The fact is that when you look at hard facts—which where I am coming from—the press releases from the member for Miller, 2½ billion extra was blown on New Generation Rolling Stock, \$965 million when it comes to Cross River Rail—

Mr Saunders interjected.

Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER (Mr Kelly): Member for Maryborough, you are warned under the standing orders.

Mr MINNIKIN:—\$600 million for the Coomera Connector. When it comes to the Gold Coast—

Mr BAILEY: Mr Deputy Speaker, I rise to a point of order. Fascinating as this rendition is, it is certainly not addressing the motion in any way whatsoever and I ask the member to come back to the motion before the House.

Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER: Member, there is no point of order. The essence of the motion relates to an approach to infrastructure and many members have adopted or explored other approaches to infrastructure.

Mr MINNIKIN: The difference is that there has been a hypothetical amount added by the government. What I have just quoted are hard facts as denoted in media releases by the member for Miller, the Minister for Transport and Main Roads. It keeps on going though. When you look at cuts it is not just quantum; it is the bang you get for your buck. Take, for example, the Coomera Connector—there goes eight lanes, six lanes, four lanes. You get less and less. It is a bit like this: the member for Miller has his own call centre, his own IVR. When it comes to whom to blame for cuts, 'press 1 for the former Morrison government'. There is one big problem now: oops, it is an Albanese government that is actually cutting 80-20 to 50-50. The problem is that there was always going to be a day of reckoning when the incessant budget blowouts of the incompetent Minister for Transport and Main Roads came back to haunt him because now when he says, 'We need to make sure the Bruce Highway is safe,' it is very noble but there is only problem: he has continually blown his budget. He is totally incompetent.