




Speech By
James Martin

MEMBER FOR STRETTON

Record of Proceedings, 9 December 2025

ADJOURNMENT

Coopers Plains, Level Crossing Removal; Public Service, Wages and Conditions

 **Mr MARTIN** (Stretton—ALP) (9.06 pm): Tonight I rise on behalf of the frustrated residents of Stretton on the south side to demand answers from the Crisafulli LNP government about why the Boundary Road level crossing removal at Coopers Plains has ground to a halt. Under Labor, this project was shovel-ready. By 2023, extensive community consultation was complete, geotechnical investigations were finished and detailed design was done. All that was left was to call tenders and start construction. Nearly 14 months into the LNP government there is still no tender, no start date, no timeline and no transparency. A cloud of secrecy has replaced progress.

Boundary Road is not a quiet back street; it is a vital industrial and commuter corridor linking Coopers Plains, Archerfield and Sunnybank Hills. Thousands of vehicles use it daily. Every peak hour the boom gates slam shut for freight and passenger trains, creating congestion, safety risks and loss of productivity. Tradies are late to jobs, parents are late to pick up their kids and local businesses bleed time and money. The community's patience is exhausted.

The government boasts spending billions in its capital program over the forward estimates. If it can find billions for its pet projects, it can surely find the relatively modest amount of funds and the political will to get moving on this project that was fully prepared before the last election. Queenslanders are tired of the excuses and blame-shifting. They are sick of the LNP blaming the previous government, ducking and weaving and breaking promises. They want safer roads and shorter commutes, not glossy brochures and staged photo opportunities. The people in my community deserve straight answers. When will the construction tender finally be released? When will the first sod be turned? When will the diggers appear onsite?

In the time I have remaining I want to send a clear message of solidarity to every radiation therapist and nuclear medicine scientist facing a 25 per cent pay cut because of this government's refusal to honour fair classifications. I say: Labor stands with you and your union. To every Queensland teacher who has been forced to stop work in the fight for fair pay and respect, I say: the opposition stands shoulder to shoulder with you and your union. You deserve better than a real wage cut, broken promises and total disregard for your safety at work. Before the election, the LNP told public servants they had nothing to fear. After the election the story changed. First it was teachers; now it is radiation therapists and scientists. The question is: who is next? Under the LNP government, no public servant's pay, conditions or job is safe. Queenslanders expect fairness for the workers who keep our state running. It is time this government delivered on what they promised.