



Speech By
Hon. Samuel O'Connor

MEMBER FOR BONNEY

Record of Proceedings, 26 August 2026

ADJOURNMENT

Gold Coast, Transport Infrastructure

 **Hon. ST O'CONNOR** (Bonney—LNP) (Minister for Housing and Public Works and Minister for Youth) (11.15 pm): For years I have stood in this House with my Gold Coast colleagues to speak about one of the biggest frustrations for the people we represent—that is, how hard it is to move around our city. Under the former Labor government, the Gold Coast was ignored and we were held to ransom for every dollar that we did get, usually through political games being played with Canberra. I have been fighting for an alternative road to the M1 since I became a candidate to be elected to this place in 2017. That is because, for too long, Gold Coasters have had to deal with delay after delay to the Coomera Connector—endless years of planning instead of building and countless cost blowouts, all while congestion kept getting worse.

That changes with our Gold Coast Transport Plan. No more advocacy to deaf ears to even just get projects on the agenda. Our blueprint lays out the biggest ever investment into our city, the most comprehensive collection of projects put forward by a government for the Gold Coast. I will table this beautiful map from the plan with the list of projects, and I acknowledge my good friend the transport minister and thank him for his investment in the Gold Coast.

Tabled paper: Extract from document, undated, titled 'Gold Coast Transport Plan—Road and Active Transport' [1487](#).

We are powering ahead with delivering the Coomera Connector, but our alternative road to the M1 cannot just stop at Coomera. We will deliver it all the way north to Yawalpah Road in Pimpama. We are not wasting any time. Expressions of interest are already open for the design of that next section to make sure we can get it done ahead of the 2032 games. This is about finally delivering a proper local road network for a city on track to have a million people so that Gold Coasters do not have to jump on a national highway to drive between the suburbs of our city.

Our plan also includes long-overdue upgrades to clogged intersections on the Gold Coast Highway, the Norco intersection at Pine Ridge Road and Captain Cook Drive and the AB Paterson College intersection at Arundel Drive. I look forward to working with our local councillor, Joe Wilkinson, to help deliver those.

Mr Stevens interjected.

Mr O'CONNOR: I take the interjection from the member for Mermaid Beach. The plan includes taking the light rail from the hospital to Harbour Town, delivering this world-class public transport to Labrador, Arundel and Biggera Waters, linking these parts of my community into the main light rail line. Across the Gold Coast, it includes our new high-frequency GC Surfer metro style services linking heavy rail, light rail, major centres, the airport and the home of the Gold Coast Suns, People First Stadium.

For the very first time, our city has a clear vision backed by clear commitments to get projects done, instead of playing politics. That is what the Gold Coast has been crying out for—not another decade of announcements without delivery, not transport infrastructure playing catch-up with population growth. Our LNP government's Gold Coast Transport Plan will transform our city, and we cannot wait to get on with the job of delivering it.