

Question on Notice
No. 713
Asked on 25 May 2023

Ms F Simpson asked Premier and Minister for the Olympic and Paralympic Games (Hon. A Palaszczuk)—

QUESTION:

With reference to the Federal Government's announcement they will put on hold committing funds to a number of promised Queensland projects until the end of this year while they review these projects, reported to be worth \$15b—

Will the Premier advise what the Premier is doing to lobby the Prime Minister to ensure these key water, congestion-busting and safety projects, including the Mooloolah River Interchange and the Rail To Maroochydore (Direct Sunshine Coast line) rail line go ahead?

ANSWER:

I refer to the response to Question on Notice 672 tabled on behalf of the Minister for Transport and Main Roads and Minister for Digital Services in relation to these matters.

The Federal Government commenced an Independent Strategic Review of its Infrastructure Investment Program (the Review) in May 2023, to be completed within 90 days. I am advised that the purpose is to deliver a pipeline of land transport infrastructure that is sustainable, aligned to market capacity and comprised of nationally significant projects.

While the review is conducted, the Federal Government has deferred decisions on future infrastructure investment for projects within the scope of the review.

We have a commitment that projects that are already funded and underway will continue.

I can also confirm that planning activities for the Direct Sunshine Coast Rail Line and preconstruction activities for the Mooloolah River Interchange Upgrade are progressing, and that both projects are a priority of our Government.

We will always continue to put Queenslanders first and fight for our fair share of Federal funding.