

Question on Notice

No. 928

Asked on 13 October 2015

MR SORENSEN asked the Deputy Premier, Minister for Transport, Minister for Infrastructure, Local Government and Planning and Minister for Trade (MS TRAD) –

QUESTION:

Will the Minister, in her role as Minister for Infrastructure, Local Government and Planning, detail all infrastructure projects that fall within her portfolio, reported separately and broken down by (a) the name of the infrastructure project, (b) whether the project has been declared significant or not, and if not what status does the project hold, (c) the set timeframe for the project, including the expected completion date, (d) the total estimated cost of the project, and (e) the total amount spent to date on that project?

ANSWER:

I thank the Honourable Member for Hervey Bay for his question.

In my role as Minister for Infrastructure, Local Government and Planning I am responsible for Economic Development Queensland, establishing Building Queensland, preparing an infrastructure plan within 12 months and more broadly, infrastructure policy, planning and prioritisation.

Economic Development Queensland has assisted in the facilitation of catalyst infrastructure to help drive economic growth in Queensland through the Priority Development Infrastructure (PDI) co-investment program. Three projects were approved under the PDI program in late 2014. These projects are Cairns Mt Peter, Central Queensland University Rockhampton, and Beaudesert Town Bypass. The budget commitment for these three projects is \$40.65 million and they are now being implemented.

On 16 September 2015, I announced a new co-investment program administered by EDQ – the “Catalyst Infrastructure Program” (CIP). The 2015-16 Budget allocates \$59.35M to the program over the next three financial years. The CIP is a Queensland Government initiative to invest over the next three years in infrastructure that unlocks development and creates long-term employment.

Building Queensland is now established and has commenced its lead role in developing business cases for a number of projects, each with an estimated capital cost greater than \$100 million. Key projects include:

- Cross River Rail;
- Train control system upgrade;
- Beerburrum to Nambour rail upgrade; and
- Queensland Health legacy ICT.

The Government is on track to deliver Queensland's first infrastructure plan in over three years, with the final State Infrastructure Plan scheduled for release in early 2016. The Plan includes a program of immediate infrastructure investment that provides the certainty industry has long been calling for. It also sets out the Queensland Government's infrastructure priorities and a clear vision to grow the State. Parliament will be aware that on 26 October 2015, I released the draft State Infrastructure Plan for targeted consultation.

On 17 September 2015, the Government lodged its comprehensive submission to Infrastructure Australia (IA), outlining our priority infrastructure projects, to inform IA's update of the 2013 infrastructure pipeline, as well as the new Australian Infrastructure Plan. I also tabled that submission in Parliament to make it available to all Members and the public.

I can also advise that under my Local Government portfolio, \$55.16 million was paid to local governments in 2014-15 for infrastructure works. This is broken up by program as follows:

- Local Government Grants and Subsidy Program – Infrastructure Subsidy - \$21.2 million;
- Local Government Grants and Subsidy Program – Floods Response Subsidy - \$14.99 million;
- Natural Disaster Resilience Program - \$17.27 million (note – this is State / Commonwealth funding);
- Priority Sewerage Treatment Plant Upgrade Program - \$1.56 million;
- State Government Financial Aid - \$0.13 million; and
- Springfield Infrastructure Subsidy - \$0.01 million.