Question on Notice

No. 71

Asked on 24 February 2021

MR S MINNIKIN ASKED MINISTER FOR TRANSPORT AND MAIN ROADS (HON M BAILEY)—

QUESTION:

Will the Minister list all claims received from the Pulse Consortium, Unity or Hitachi Rail for delays or scope changes relating to the Cross River Rail project together with the claimed costs and any time delay for each claim?

ANSWER:

I thank the Member for Chatsworth for the question, although I do not accept its premise.

The *Queensland Transport and Roads Investment Program 2020–21 to 2023–24* represents a record investment in road and transport infrastructure for the fifth year in a row, with $26.9 billion in works committed over the next four years, supporting an average of approximately 23,600 direct jobs over the life of the program. Additionally, the Palaszczuk Government has invested $5.4 billion for the Cross River Rail project, which is estimated to support an average of 7700 jobs during the life of the project.

Economies worldwide are enduring the harshest economic downturn in generations, and Queensland's economy is not immune. Every job counts more than ever right now. Cross River Rail will help stimulate the economy as part of *Unite and Recover: Queensland's Economic Recovery Plan*. With over 800 local subcontractors and suppliers already benefitting from the project to date, Cross River Rail will create a pipeline of economic development opportunities around its station precincts, supporting more jobs, for years to come.

It is a fact that Cross River Rail would not be happening if the Opposition had been elected and that means thousands of construction workers on Cross River Rail would not have jobs.

Contractual matters are commercial-in-confidence.

The Cross River Rail project remains on time, and on budget. On 2 February 2021, the Auditor-General released *Report 10: 2020–21 Transport 2020* and reported "no significant issues have been identified in our financial statement audit."