

Jim Madden MP

Member for Ipswich West

2016 STATE REPORT



As we prepare to mark the end of 2016, I would like to take this opportunity to reflect on what has been a great year for the Palaszczuk Government and thank local community groups who I have worked with this year to deliver local funding and major projects in Ipswich West.

I'm proud of our achievements, from multimillion dollar investments in local Infrastructure and local jobs to legislative wins on criminal justice reform, workers compensation and rehabilitation, health and education, as well as in our *Advance Queensland* and *Skilling Queenslanders for Work* programs

I look forward to working with you in 2017 to continue to make Ipswich West a great place to live, work, and raise a family.

Jim Madden MP





LOCAL HIGHLIGHTS

Throughout 2016 I have continually campaigned to deliver projects and obtain funding in Ipswich West including:

INFRASTRUCTURE

- **\$10 million** to upgrade the intersection of Warrego Highway and Tallegalla Road/ Lowood-Minden Road (Minden Crossroads).
- **\$2.75 million** to fix the intersection of Pine Street and Delacy Street in North Ipswich, making the road safer, increasing tourist access and undoing the mess created by the Newman-Nicholls LNP Government.
- The *Safer Roads Sooner* program saw a **\$7.3 million** upgrade of Rosewood-Laidley Road near Grandchester, supporting 23 jobs over the life of the project. Karrabin-Rosewood Road and Hagslea-Amberley Road also received funding under this program.
- Opened the southern section of the *Brisbane Valley Rail Trail* with a **\$1.5 million** State Government contribution to the Brassall Bikeway. The BVRT now spans 90km uninterrupted from Wulkuraka Railway Station to Toogoolawah, stimulating tourism and creating jobs throughout the region.
- Flashing school zone lights installed at St Joseph's Primary School in North Ipswich, adding to lights at many local schools.
- Upgraded the sidewalk and crossing at Brassall State School.

HERITAGE PROTECTION

- Successfully lobbied for the return of Queensland Government Heritage grants through the Community Sustainability Action Program, resulting in **\$700 000** in grant funding for projects to restore and conserve Queensland's heritage buildings.

EDUCATION AND TRAINING

- Local projects from the \$240 million *Skilling Queenslanders for Work* program were successfully completed at the Allawah Road Scout Camp through Apprenticeships Queensland and at the Tivoli Drive In, creating jobs and skilling up our local workforce.
- Fought for the Borrallon Training and Correctional Centre to be reopened, creating jobs through its redesign and construction process and the day to day operation of the centre. This year the centre celebrated its first graduation through TAFE Queensland, with 65 graduates gaining new qualifications to create new opportunities, reduce recidivism, and make our community safer.
- Obtained over **\$2 million** of funding for Special Education spaces at Rosewood State School, Rosewood State High School, Leichhardt State School, and Ipswich State High School.
- Co-hosted the Ipswich Principal's Lunch and the 2016 Budget Breakfast with Jen Howard.





LOCAL HIGHLIGHTS

SUPPORTING OUR COMMUNITY

- Published the *Ipswich West Grants Booklet*, helping local groups access Government funding, including **\$1,084,121** in Gambling Community Benefit Funding.

HEALTH AND EMERGENCY SERVICES

- Delivering on our commitment to restore frontline services in Queensland, Ipswich West has seen more police officers posted to local stations. As a result Lowood Police Station now has a 24 hour capacity, creating greater coverage and security for the surrounding region.
- Legislated for Nurse to Patient Ratios in Queensland Hospitals from July 1 this year, guaranteeing minimum nurse staffing numbers in acute medical and surgical wards. This will deliver quicker critical situation rescues for patients and decrease lengths of stay through the prevention of complications and adverse events. For our hardworking Ipswich nurses, this means fewer work-related injuries, lower turnover, and higher job satisfaction.
- Handed over a new fire fighting appliance for the Lowood Fire Station at a total value of **\$525,000** to help secure our local area from fires and emergencies.
- Hosted NDIS transition forums in Lowood and sponsored Police Forums and a Blue Light Disco at Marburg.

DROUGHT RELIEF AND RURAL COMMUNITIES

- Was the Government's representative on the *Rural Debt and Drought Relief Taskforce* resulting in the **\$77.9 million** Rural Assistance and Drought package for Queensland's farmers and primary producers.

TACKLING UNEMPLOYMENT

- The Ipswich region has been a beneficiary of the Palaszczuk Government's focus on local jobs, with the 12-month average unemployment rate lower now than when the Newman-Nicholls Government left office.
- Local youth unemployment in the Ipswich region has dropped from 17.6% at the last state election to 13.5% in October 2016.
- Labor has acted to ensure security of payment for local subcontractors. This is projected to create 1089 new Queensland jobs each year and inject **\$6.42 billion** into the state economy over the next 20 years.

WILDLIFE CONSERVATION

- The 2016 Queensland Budget saw **\$89.1 million** put towards wildlife management and environmental protection, including **\$12 million** for Koala Conservation and **\$2.7 million** for the management of Flying Fox roosts.
- Supported local organisations such as the Ipswich Koala Protection Society, West Moreton Landcare, and A.R.R.O.W.



DELIVERING FOR QUEENSLAND

- The Palaszczuk Labor Government has delivered two surpluses. paying down the State Debt *without* selling off Queensland's assets.
- According to the Deloitte Access Economics Business Outlook for September Quarter 2016, Queensland should have record nation-leading growth across the next decade.
- ABS figures show a rise in dwelling approvals.
- The National Australia Bank's Business Confidence Index ranks us equal-first with NSW and SA.
- More than 40,000 jobs have been created since the election of the Palaszczuk Government under two years ago.
- Labor has legislated Industrial Relations reforms reinstating employment security for public servants, right of entry provisions for workplace health and safety permit holders to inspect safety concerns, guaranteeing the independence of the Queensland Industrial relations Commission and re-establishing the Electrical Safety Commission.
- The Government has contributed \$6.8 million over four years to develop and implement a Queensland Climate Change Strategy.
- Committed \$200 million to the Ipswich Motorway Upgrade between Rocklea and Oxley to begin in 2017.
- Anastacia Palaszczuk remains Queensland's preferred Premier.



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