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State Budget delivers for the Sunshine Coast

I welcome news of budget funding allocations in health, transport, police and education awarded to the Maroochydore electorate and wider Sunshine Coast region.

This year's budget includes a capital spend of more than \$1.5 billion in the Sunshine Coast region alone, including \$369.8 million to continue the \$1.872 billion Sunshine Coast Public University Hospital and over \$100 million in funding for Bruce Highway upgrades between Caboolture and the Sunshine Motorway interchange.

This will include 'six-laning' works and two new interchanges from Caloundra Road to the Sunshine Motorway and interchange upgrades between Caboolture and Caloundra.

\$24.5 million to commence Stage 1 of a two-stage \$1.134 billion, upgrade of the Bruce Highway between Caloundra Road and the Sunshine Motorway, which is jointly Australian and Queensland Government funded.

\$80.3 million from the Australian Government for the \$195 million program of interchange upgrades between Caboolture and Caloundra.

Over \$2 million has been provided to relocate Coolum Police Station to a future "one-stop shop" facility for all emergency services at South Coolum Road adjacent to the Queensland Ambulance Service.

I am delighted that funding has now been released for a long-term solution to Coolum district's policing needs after campaigning for many years for a permanent home for Coolum's Police Station to replace the temporary site which has been leased since 2005.

Bruce Highway
\$768 million in 2014-15
to upgrade sections of
the Bruce Highway



The new site provides better access to the Sunshine Motorway and is close to the Coolum State Primary School.

Education funding for the Sunshine Coast region includes \$12 million to prepare schools for the transition of Year 7 into high school next year.

Nearly \$800,000 has been awarded to 5 schools in my electorate under the Great Results Guarantee Initiative:

Coolum State School	\$227,000
Maroochydore State High School	\$113,000
Maroochydore State School	\$97,000
Mooloolaba State School	\$183,000
Pacific Paradise State School	\$176,000

The Sunshine Coast will also benefit from our share of the Government's \$44 million Safe Night Out Strategy with a commitment to establish one of the fifteen local Boards here on the Coast.

Education
UP 7% to
\$11.8 billion

This Budget continues to deliver a Strong Plan for a Brighter Future.

The 2014-15 Budget carefully balances increases in education, health and community services spending, while not introducing or raising any new taxes or reducing services.

Strong Choices have to be made so that a brighter future can be ours; we need to reduce the State's \$80 billion debt and \$4 billion annual interest bill to build more infrastructure and grow the State's economy. This Budget outlines our plan, so we can sustainably invest in the schools, hospitals and infrastructure for the future.

We are making significant progress in restoring our finances, growing a four pillar economy, revitalising frontline services and funding infrastructure projects to create jobs – with more than 60,000 jobs created in Queensland in the last year. To sustain this growth we must reduce debt. So we can truly keep building on our Strong Plan for a Brighter Future.

More information is available on-line at <http://www.budget.qld.gov.au/current-budget/at-a-glance/>

Details of the budget funding allocations for the Maroochydore Electorate :

Funding source	Cost
Sunshine Coast Hospital and Health Service (to deliver public health care services)	\$695 million (Sunshine Coast)
Sunshine Coast Public University Hospital (to continue the \$1.8 billion construction project, due for completion in 2016)	\$369.8 million (Sunshine Coast)
Energex multi-stage SunCoast sub-transmission powerline project (to increase network capacity and improve reliability on the Sunshine Coast). The total estimated cost of the project is \$84.7 million.	\$11.3 million (2014-15) (Sunshine Coast)
Provide funding for the relocation of Coolum police station	\$2.2 million (Maroochydore)
Bruce Highway - Caloundra Rd to Sunshine Motorway, widen to 6 lanes (Joint Federal and State project)	\$24.5 million (Sunshine Coast)
Bruce Highway Upgrade (Caboolture to Caloundra) (Joint Federal and State project)	\$80.3 million (Sunshine Coast)
Bruce Highway Frizzo Rd to Sippy Creek Rd, construct interchange (Federal project)	\$4.8 million (Sunshine Coast)
Disability Services Funding (assisting people with a disability and their families to access the support and services they need throughout life)	\$8.23 million (Maroochydore)
Child Safety Funding (dedicated to protecting children and young people from harm or who are at risk of harm)	\$6.36 million (Maroochydore)
Social inclusion funding (protecting the well-being of locals who are vulnerable and most in need)	\$2.5 million (Maroochydore)
Homelessness Services (for non-government organisations to deliver specialist services aimed at both reducing the number of homeless people and the number of people becoming homeless)	\$1.218 million (Maroochydore)
Great Results Guarantee funding for 5 schools in the Maroochydore electorate	\$796,000 (Maroochydore)
Sunshine Coast Destination Ltd (to support destination marketing across the Sunshine Coast)	\$300,000 (Sunshine Coast)
Qld Regional Natural Resource Management Investment Program (for targeted weed control activities and enhanced water quality in the South East).	\$300,000 (North Coast region)
Establishment of Local Boards for the Safe Night Out Strategy (to implement effective management strategies and set up Safe Night Out Precincts)	\$50,000 (Sunshine Coast)