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BUDGET DELIVERS INFRASTRUCTURE FOR IPSWICH

The Bligh Government's historically unprecedented commitment to Ipswich is continuing through the State Budget handed down today.

Member for Ipswich Rachel Nolan has welcomed the Budget saying it both delivers the infrastructure needed to ensure Ipswich's sustainable growth and funds the social services which ensure a compassionate community.

"In 2005, the State Labor Government made a conscious decision to invest in Ipswich's growth when it brought down the SEQ Regional Plan," Ms Nolan said.

"We are now seeing an infrastructure flood unprecedented in the city's history as almost every government department invests in the future of our city."

This Budget includes –

- \$4.7 million towards the \$5 million total cost of the Ipswich Multifunction Development. This is the project announced by the Premier in February to redevelop the Ipswich CBD including a new transit centre and provide office space for 1200 new public servants
- \$49.7 million to complete the extension of the Centenary Highway from Springfield to Yamanto.
- \$78.1 million to continue the triplication of the Ipswich Railway line between Corinda and Darra, a necessary step for the provision of more express trains
- Funding to complete the current refurbishment of the Ipswich Railway Station
- \$625,000 this year to Ipswich City Council for development of the Queens Park Environmental Education Centre as part of Queensland's 150th legacy infrastructure (total State contribution \$1.25 million)
- \$1.93 million (of \$9.78 million total project cost) to increase electricity substation capacity at Ipswich South Substation
- \$52.4 million to continue construction of the new Ipswich Courthouse and Police Station in Ellenborough Street
- \$11.76 for the new Ipswich Police Station
- Funding for local roads projects including the intersection of South Station Road and Brisbane Road and Limestone Street and Gordon Street (see attachment)

In addition, the budget increases funding for a range of social services which provide early intervention for families at risk, accommodation for the homeless and support for people with disabilities to live in the community. Disability Services Queensland receives a massive 14% funding increase. Details of the local breakdown of that funding are included on the attached document.