

Regional Budget Statement South Coast

State-wide Highlights

The 2009-10 Budget will support and create jobs by continuing the Government's capital works program for roads, schools and hospitals as well delivering new job creation programs and initiatives to expand Queensland's skills base.

- \$3.53 billion for better and safer roads
- \$464.77 million on major hospital developments
- \$301 million to build and renew school facilities through the State Schools of Tomorrow program
- \$101 million for the Skilling Queenslanders for Work initiative
- 203 new police officers
- 50 new ambulance officers
- 350 new teachers and teacher aides
- 645 new doctors, nurses and allied health professionals
- \$3.06 million for the Support Our Heroes package to support emergency service volunteers and prepare communities for natural disasters
- \$36 million over three years for new tourism campaigns
- \$96 million over five years for new climate change initiatives
- \$50 million over six years for the Great Barrier Reef Protection Package.

As a part of the global economy, Queensland has felt the effects of the global financial and economic crisis. The worst set of global economic circumstances in more than 75 years has resulted in falling revenues and rising unemployment.

That's why the centrepiece of the 2009-10 State Budget is jobs – creating and sustaining jobs, assisting business and industry, and positioning our economy for future growth.

Specific investments in education, employment and training, business and vital industries such as tourism will help create and support jobs for Queenslanders.

The Queensland Government is investing \$18 billion in its jobs-generating building program, with



Anna Bligh MP
Premier
and Minister for the Arts

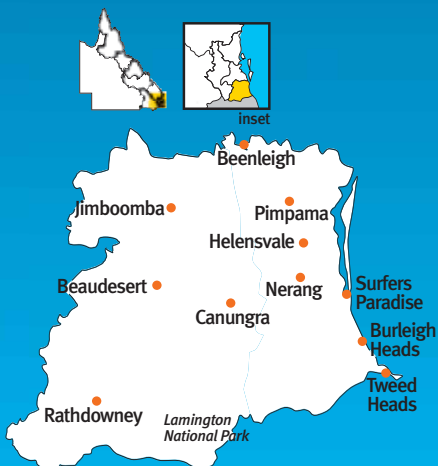
injections of funding for roads, ports, schools, transport and other vital infrastructure.

Frontline service delivery is our focus with commitments for police, hospitals and healthcare, ambulance services and teachers – the things we need to keep our communities healthy, safe and growing. The Government is determined to cushion Queenslanders from

the full impact of the global recession. That means acting now to support the economy and making the long term decisions needed for the future.

Queensland's prosperity and growth is built on the strength of our regions. This document puts on record the Government's commitment to the people and economy of the South Coast region.

Andrew Fraser MP
Treasurer and Minister for Employment
and Economic Development



Gold Coast University Hospital Project - artist's impression

Protecting jobs on the South Coast

As the global economic crisis takes hold and Queensland's economic growth rate slows, the Government is committed to protecting the jobs of today and creating the jobs of tomorrow.

The Government's job programs are more important than ever before and will play a crucial role in supporting Queensland workers through these uncertain economic times.

The Government will implement a host of initiatives that will create new jobs and equip our workforce with the skills needed for future recovery.



Productivity Places Program

A \$414 million industry-based program (including \$259 million in Australian Government funding) to deliver almost 150,000 new training places over four years.



Tourism Blueprint to Protect Jobs

A \$37.8 million program to create 1,000 new jobs for new, regionally-focussed tourism market and product development campaigns, and to support the 'drive travel' market.



Sustainable Resource Communities

A \$25 million program to create 500 new jobs over the next 12 months by boosting employment in regional areas affected by the mining downturn.



Payroll tax apprentice and trainee incentives

A \$15 million scheme to assist Queensland businesses that employ apprentices and trainees. In addition to the payroll tax exemption provided for apprentice and trainee wages, businesses will also receive a 25% rebate on payroll tax for other equivalent employees in 2009-10.



Queensland Green Army

A \$57 million program to create 3,000 new jobs over three years by putting an army of unemployed Queenslanders to work to improve our waterways, beaches, national parks and green spaces.

Green Army participants will work on projects of strategic importance to enhance and protect Queensland's natural assets, strengthen the tourism industry and promote increased environmental awareness around the State.

It will create 2,300 jobs through work placements of up to six months and 700 year-long Green Traineeship positions for young, unemployed Queenslanders.

For more information about the Green Army, visit www.greenarmy.qld.gov.au.



Photograph supplied courtesy of the Department of Employment, Economic Development and Innovation



It might be one of Queensland's smallest regions, but with a population growth rate above that of the State's average, the South Coast region is fast becoming one of Australia's largest urban hubs. Covering an area of 4,261 square kilometres or 0.2 per cent of the State, the South Coast is home to almost 610,000¹ Queenslanders, representing 14.2 per cent of Queensland's total population.

The South Coast plays host to a diverse economy which includes property and business services, construction, retail trade, manufacturing, hospitality and tourism to name but a few. World-class universities, leading hospitals and schools, and a vibrant, unique culture add to the South Coast's appeal.

The Queensland Government recognises the valuable contribution the South Coast makes to the State's economic and social development. This Regional Budget Statement highlights the Government's commitment to get on with the job of supporting the region and its people.

1 Population data as at 30 June 2008, Australian Bureau of Statistics, Regional Population Growth (cat. no. 3218.0).

Delivering jobs for Queensland

Jobs are the Government's number one priority. Faced with challenging global economic conditions, the Government will create and protect jobs to help keep Queensland strong and secure our economic foundations.

In 2009-10, the Government will drive Queensland's \$18 billion building infrastructure program to stimulate growth, create and protect jobs and meet the infrastructure needs of our rapidly growing population.

Key building projects in the South Coast region include:

- \$348 million to construct the Wyaralong Dam, to work in conjunction with the Cedar Grove Weir and the Bromelton Offstream Storage. A further \$5 million will be invested in planning and developing the proposed Wyaralong Water Treatment Plant
- \$135 million for the Gold Coast Rapid Transit System between Parkwood and Broadbeach
- \$120 million to continue raising the level of Hinze Dam on the Gold Coast, at an estimated total cost of \$395 million
- \$97.3 million to continue extending the Gold Coast Railway from Robina to Varsity Lakes
- \$60 million over three years towards the redevelopment of Gold Coast Stadium at Carrara
- \$15.9 million to upgrade electricity supplies from the Mudgeeraba Substation and improve electricity supplies between Coomera and Hope Island.

As well as protecting jobs now, the Government is preparing for the future. By developing the skills base of Queensland workers, supporting emerging industries, building on traditional strengths, and attracting investment and innovation, Queensland will be well positioned to lead Australia through the period of recovery and beyond.

In 2009-10, other job-generating investments in the South Coast region include:

- \$103.9 million for vocational education and training activities
- \$28.9 million to continue developing the \$30.5 million Coomera Education Precinct at the Gold Coast Institute of TAFE
- \$4.55 million to create 530 jobs for young people and those disadvantaged in the labour market through the Skilling Queenslanders for Work initiative, which includes Queensland's Green Army.

Investing in our health

To make Queenslanders Australia's healthiest people, the Government is investing in healthy lifestyles, hospitals and other frontline health services to ensure Queenslanders receive the best possible healthcare when illness strikes.

During the next three years, the Queensland Government aims to employ more than 3,500 additional doctors, nurses and allied health professionals across the State. In addition, \$7.9 million will be spent to train and recruit fully accredited nurse practitioners to reduce emergency department waiting times.

In 2009-10, the Government will also provide funding for the following State-wide initiatives:

- \$464.77 million towards major hospital capital works
- \$30 million for the expansion of the Surgery Connect program to deliver additional elective surgery procedures
- \$1 million additional funding for new maternity services under the Mums and Bubs program to provide one-on-one midwifery support in Beaudesert, Jimboomba and other locations across the State.

In 2009-10, individuals and families in the South Coast region will also benefit from the following treatment and healthcare initiatives

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aimed at maintaining healthy, strong communities:

- \$155 million towards construction of the \$1.762 billion Gold Coast University Hospital
- \$72.4 million to continue the \$240 million expansion of Robina Hospital
- \$40.89 million for the Home and Community Care initiative
- \$17.9 million for the new \$36.3 million Robina Health Precinct Project
- \$13.8 million in funding across South-East Queensland to fluoridate the South Coast water supply
- \$9.03 million to support people with a disability
- \$3.7 million over four years to provide extra out-of-home care places for children who are in care and have complex and extreme needs
- \$3.32 million to improve community sport and recreation facilities
- \$2.9 million to help Queenslanders remain in their own homes or in the private rental market
- \$1.34 million to support victims of domestic and family violence
- \$1.13 million to support the homeless or those at risk of becoming homeless
- \$255,000 to non-government organisations for the Palliative Care Program at Southport
- \$143,000 in funding for Currumbin and Surfers Paradise to support a State-wide

Fostering innovation

\$530,000 (\$1 million in total) from the Research-Industry Partnerships Program to CoastalCOMS Pty Ltd to develop a dynamic beach safety rating tool. This tool will use beach morphology (form and structure) and bathymetry (depth), breaking wave heights, wave intensity and power, and the number of people and craft using the beach to provide a real-time risk profile and safety index for beaches around Australia.



hearing screening program for babies born in private hospitals, paediatric audiology diagnostic and treatment services, and the cochlear implant program

- \$99,000 for non-government organisations in Burleigh to employ chronic disease health workers in the areas of nutrition, physical activity, alcohol, child health, and sexual and reproductive health.



Robina Hospital

The Queensland Government is committed to making Queenslanders Australia's healthiest people by investing in healthcare, health services and hospitals. In 2009-10, the Government will invest \$72.4 million towards the \$240 million expansion of the Robina Hospital (pictured).

Renewable energy and the environment

The Queensland Government is committed to the fight against climate change and reducing Queensland's carbon footprint by one-third by 2020. Across the State, the Government is investing an additional \$95.83 million over five years in new climate change initiatives, including \$15.6 million for disaster management, \$15 million for the ClimateSmart Business Service, \$8 million for the Energy Efficiency Retrofit program, \$4.5 million to extend the Rural Water Use Efficiency initiative, and \$52.7 million on energy conservation and demand management initiatives.

The Government will also create new green jobs by investing in emerging industries and renewable energy projects, such as the Solar Hot Water Program. This program will provide up to 200,000 Queensland homes with solar hot water or heat pump systems at a fraction of the normal price.

Other initiatives aimed at protecting the South Coast region's natural environment include an investment of \$1 million to continue restoring Kirra Beach.

Better and safer roads

The Government's \$3.53 billion road building program plans for growth by creating and sustaining Queensland jobs, improving road safety and quality, reducing congestion, and continuing to connect people and places around the State.

In 2009-10, the Government's commitment to improve road quality and safety in the South Coast region will include:

- \$35.2 million in joint Queensland-Australian Government funding to continue the \$142 million interchange improvements on the Pacific Motorway at Robina and Varsity Lakes, due for completion in 2012-13
- \$30 million to continue widening the Gold Coast Highway, due for completion in 2011-12, at a total cost of \$127 million
- \$17.9 million in joint Queensland-Australian Government funding to continue upgrading the Mudgeeraba interchange on the Pacific Motorway, at a total cost of \$47 million.

Promoting education and early childhood development

The Queensland Government is focussed on ensuring every Queensland child has access to high-quality education. The emphasis will be on the essentials of literacy, numeracy and science, as well as major infrastructure investment to provide first-rate teaching and learning environments, and generate employment opportunities.

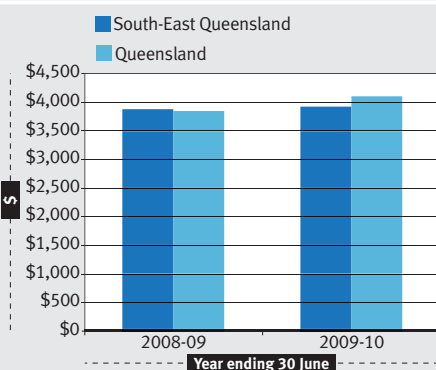
In 2009-10, the Queensland Government will provide \$301 million to continue the State Schools of Tomorrow program to improve and build new facilities in some of Queensland's oldest schools.

As part of the Government's commitment to universal access to a quality early childhood education, joint Queensland and Australian Government funding of \$15.4 million under the Early Childhood Reform National Partnership will be provided in 2009-10 for the establishment of kindergarten infrastructure on 15 State school sites with 240 new or extra kindergarten services to be running by 2014.

The Government will further invest in the South Coast region with the following initiatives aimed at promoting education and early childhood development:

Capital investment per capita

2008-09 to 2009-10



1. Data is based on ABS Statistical Divisions for 2006 ASGC. Due to boundary changes, data prior to 2008-09 has not been provided.

2. South East Queensland includes the ABS Statistical Divisions of Brisbane, Gold Coast and Sunshine Coast

Source: ABS, Regional Population Growth, Australia and New Zealand, Cat no. 3218.0



Gold Coast Rapid Transit - artist's impression



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- \$4.4 million to construct stage two of Park Lake State School
- \$3.9 million to begin planning stage two of Ormeau Woods State High School
- \$3 million to complete construction of a new \$3.5 million learning block at Varsity College
- \$3 million to complete construction of the \$3.3 million replacement buildings at Kalbar State School
- \$2 million to complete construction of the \$2.4 million early childhood education centre in Beaudesert.

Improving emergency services

During the past year, Queensland has experienced devastating floods, cyclones and torrential storms. The Government's investment in emergency services will help make Queensland communities safer, provide quality emergency relief services, and create and sustain jobs.

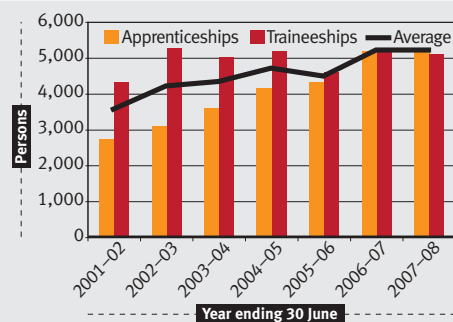
In 2009-10, individuals and families across Queensland will benefit from:

- \$57.03 million for new and upgraded police stations and facilities
- \$22.2 million for nine new or improved urban fire and rescue stations, and improvements to emergency service facilities
- \$20.93 million for 150 new ambulance vehicles, including 140 replacement vehicles and 10 additional vehicles
- \$19.25 million for 20 new or redeveloped ambulance facilities
- \$14.8 million for 57 new or replacement urban and rural fire and rescue appliances
- \$1.84 million (\$7.34 million over four years) to increase safety for rural firefighters under the \$12.98 million Support our Heroes package
- \$1.22 million (\$5.64 million over five years) for vehicles, flood boats and trailers for the State Emergency Service under the \$12.98 million Support our Heroes package.

The South Coast region will also benefit from the following initiatives aimed at improving emergency services:

- the donation of a \$6 million twin-engine helicopter to Surf Life Saving Queensland to patrol beaches between the Gold Coast and

Participation in post-secondary education Apprenticeships and traineeships, 2001-02 to 2007-08



Source: DET, Apprenticeships and traineeships, (unpublished data)

Noosa, and \$400,000 per annum towards ongoing operating costs

- \$3.6 million to redevelop the Southport Fire Station at a total cost of \$5.29 million
- \$3.05 million to build a new \$3.45 million fire station at Nerang
- \$2.92 million to complete the \$3.45 million refurbishment of the Beenleigh Police Station
- \$2.7 million to complete the new \$10.03 million Coomera District Police Headquarters
- \$2 million to build a new ambulance station at Runaway Bay
- \$715,000 for a new \$2.62 million ambulance training facility at Pimpama
- \$150,000 for a new \$2 million ambulance station at Jimboomba.



Get on board with Q150 celebrations

Queensland has come a long way since its birth as a separate colony 150 years ago. To celebrate this milestone, the Government is bringing Queenslanders together to honour the importance of our people, places and stories in shaping our great State.

With more than 480 community events and 91 social, historic and community legacy infrastructure projects happening around the State, there's something for everyone to enjoy – including the historic Q150 Steam Train and travelling Q150 Shed.

To find out more about Q150 celebrations in the South Coast region and across Queensland, visit the Q150 website at www.q150.qld.gov.au



Photograph supplied courtesy of Queensland Department of Transport and Main Roads

Queensland State Budget Highlights 2009–10

Budget summary

Internationally Australia is a standout performer; Queensland to remain ahead of the nation

- Queensland's economy is expected to expand by $\frac{1}{2}\%$ in 2008-09, compared with no growth in the Australian economy.
- The State economy is forecast to experience a slightly milder contraction than the national average in 2009-10.
- Year-average employment growth is forecast to be $1\frac{1}{4}\%$ in 2010-11, compared with $\frac{1}{2}\%$ over the year to June quarter 2011 for Australia as a whole.
- Queensland's year-average unemployment rate is forecast to peak at $7\frac{1}{4}\%$ in 2010-11, compared with a peak in the national rate of $8\frac{1}{2}\%$ in June quarter 2011.

Challenging fiscal environment

- A deteriorating global and domestic economic environment has significantly impacted Queensland's finances.
- Since the 2008-09 Budget, \$15 billion over 4 years has been knocked off the State's key revenue sources (GST, taxes and royalties).
- As a result, Queensland is forecasting a General Government operating deficit in 2009-10 and across the forward estimates.
- The Government is committed to returning the Budget to surplus and lowering the State's debt levels and, consequently, has implemented around \$5.4 billion worth (over four years) of measures aimed at improving Queensland's fiscal position.
- The Government has undertaken steps to repair the State's finances for the longer term, charting a course back to surplus by 2016-17.

Investing in infrastructure to sustain jobs

- The Government's key objective is to continue to invest in infrastructure to sustain jobs while the current economic circumstances prevail.
- The 2009-10 capital program is forecast to be \$18.2 billion which is expected to support 127,000 full-time jobs.
- In 2009-10 there will be capital outlays of \$7.307 billion for transport and main roads, \$1.447 billion for housing and homelessness services, \$1.837 billion for education and training, \$1.296 billion for health, and \$1.121 billion for water.

Delivering for Queensland

In 2009-10, the Government will provide \$20.3 million for intensive teaching of Year 3 and 5 students who are not meeting national literacy and numeracy standards.

The Budget will also provide for an additional 350 teachers and teacher aides to meet enrolment growth.

Queensland Health's budget will grow to \$9.037 billion in 2009-10, an 8.2% increase on the previous year.

An additional \$30 million will be provided for Surgery Connect to provide treatment opportunities for patients currently waiting longer for surgery than is clinically recommended.

The 2009-10 Budget will see funding provided for an additional 50 ambulance officers, 150 new ambulances, 20 new or redeveloped ambulance facilities, nine new or improved urban fire and rescue stations, 23 new or replacement urban fire and rescue appliances and 34 new or replacement rural fire appliances.

Government services on the South Coast

Beaudesert

QGAP

Centre 9, William Street
Beaudesert QLD 4285
Telephone: 5542 9400
Facsimile: 5542 9450

Opening hours: Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday – 9am to 4:30pm; Wednesday – 9am to 9:30pm

Beaudesert

Queensland Primary Industries and Fisheries

29-31 William Street
Beaudesert QLD 4285
Telephone: 5541 1377
Facsimile: 5541 3219

Opening hours: Monday to Friday – 8:30am to 5pm

Beenleigh

Department of Environment and Resource Management – Business Centre

32 Tansey Street
Beenleigh QLD 4207
Telephone: 3884 8020
Facsimile: 3884 8079

Opening hours: Monday to Friday – 8:30am to 4:30pm

Southport

Department of Employment, Economic Development and Innovation

Connaught Centre
26 Marine Parade
Southport QLD 4215
Telephone: 5583 7585
Facsimile: 5583 7591

Opening hours: Monday to Friday – 8:30am to 5pm

Robina

Department of Communities – Gold Coast Regional Office

Level 1, AVC Building
14 Edgewater Court
Robina QLD 4226
Telephone: 5583 4400
Facsimile: 5583 4429

Opening hours: Monday to Friday – 8:30am to 5pm

Robina

Department of Environment and Resource Management – Business Centre

Level 1, AVC Building
14 Edgewater Court
Robina QLD 4226
Telephone: 5583 1700
Facsimile: 5583 1744

Opening hours: Monday to Friday – 8:30am to 4:30pm

Other services

Smart Service Queensland

For information on all other Government services call 13 13 04 or visit www.qld.gov.au

State Emergency Service

Telephone: 132 500

13 Health

Telephone: 13 43 25 84

Green Army

Find out more or register your interest in joining the Green Army by calling 1800 249 215 (Monday to Friday – 8am to 6pm) or online at www.greenarmy.qld.gov.au

Rapid Response Team

A hotline (1800 035 749) is available for retrenched workers who require information about Federal and State Government assistance