



Speech by

MIKE REYNOLDS

MEMBER FOR TOWNSVILLE

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THE STRAND, TOWNSVILLE

Mr REYNOLDS (Townsville—ALP) (10.26 p.m.): The Strand in Townsville is destined to become one of Australia's top city beachfronts. Last Monday, Townsville Mayor Tony Mooney and I previewed highlights of the two-stage redevelopment that will give The Strand urgently needed weather protection and transform the beachfront into a first-class landscaped recreational area.

The rock wall between the beach and the roadway will be demolished and a new low rock wall will be constructed, utilising as much of the rock from the old wall as possible. One of the features will be sweeping views of the beach, the ocean and Magnetic Island from the roadway and footpath across the new wall, the top of which will be at about footpath height. The Queensland Government recognises the great merit of the project. I am delighted that Government input has made it possible for this redevelopment to proceed.

Project managers MacNorth have been appointed. The new-look Strand and the Strand wall is engineered to a standard of protection that will withstand severe weather conditions representing a one-in-100 year event. The total estimated amount of sand added to the beach will be 250,000 cubic metres. New beach will be created as the construction program goes along. The estimated general fill for the entire project is 210,000 cubic metres and the estimated amount of rock is 100,000 tonnes. That will give members an idea of the magnitude of the project. By constructing headlands along the beach, sand losses and maintenance costs will be kept to a minimum. The headlands and the new rock wall will help to trap the sand. A wide, high-tide beach will absorb wave energy before it reaches the sea wall.

It is vital to complete as much of the program as possible before the 1998-99 cyclone season commences. The beach will be replenished with coarse sand similar in quality to the sand already on The Strand. This is also essential in an effort to minimise sand loss. The on-site work force will peak at 100 early next year.

I very much welcome the official start of this much-needed development. It will be a world-class vista of which both residents and tourists will be proud.
