



Speech by

Dr DAVID WATSON

MEMBER FOR MOGGILL

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BRISBANE LIGHT RAIL PROJECT

Dr WATSON (Moggill—LP) (Leader of the Liberal Party) (10.13 a.m.): Queensland is being run by a can't do media tart in a can't do circus. Last week's backflip on Brisbane's light rail project was a stake in the heart of the Government's second-rate super stadium proposal for Lang Park. It is now just a matter of time before the Premier performs another Beattie backflip which has become the trademark of his can't do circus.

The viability of Lang Park is totally reliant on public transport, and members opposite know that. It is totally reliant on getting people out of their cars and into trains and buses. Light rail and Lang Park are inextricably linked by the need to move thousands and thousands of people to and from games. That is why the Government moved to extend the light rail network to Milton.

Light rail is dead and so is the Premier's half-baked plan for Lang Park. The Government has killed two birds with one stone, another damning indictment of his can't do credentials. The alleged reason for axing light rail was an \$80m blow-out and undue disruption to local traffic and traders. That is precisely the situation with Lang Park. The Government has already admitted the cost has blown out from \$200m to \$280m and we are now being told the figure is well in excess of \$300m. Associated infrastructure will stretch from Roma Street to Milton. There will be total chaos in all directions. Local residents and thousands of commuters will be massively inconvenienced for many, many months. Many traders will go to the wall because of the lengthy disruption to their businesses. That is a very high price to pay for another white elephant. It is time for the can't do media tart to perform another Beattie backflip.
