



Speech by  
**Hon. NITA  
CUNNINGHAM**

**MEMBER FOR BUNDABERG**

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Hansard 20 June 2001

**LANG PARK**

**Hon. N. I. CUNNINGHAM** (Bundaberg—ALP) (Minister for Local Government and Planning) (6.37 p.m.): I rise to speak against this motion. We need in our consideration of this matter to be very clear on the process being followed, the balance of equity and openness, as well as the state's strong interest in a project which is clearly of state significance.

The state government is responsible to the people of Queensland for facilitating major projects and creating jobs for Queensland. The Integrated Planning Act provides local government with the power to make decisions on development applications. In addition, certain ministers may make decisions for projects that involve a state interest. That is precisely why there is a call-in power under the Integrated Planning Act. We must be very, very clear about that.

The proposed Lang Park redevelopment has followed an open, inclusive and accountable process. Lang Park's redevelopment is clearly a matter of major interest and significance to the state. The Integrated Planning Act sets out formal processes which were followed. These are—

through the Integrated Development Assessment System, the development application was properly assessed and subsequently approved by the Brisbane City Council;

as part of the approval, Brisbane City Council addressed the impacts of the proposal which required a number of conditions to mitigate impacts on the community. The Brisbane City Council approved the development application, with conditions attached, properly exercising its powers under the Integrated Planning Act;

Brisbane City Council had extensive information on the various aspects of the development proposal and its impacts, and this included the Coordinator-General's evaluation report of the environmental impact statement; and

the community provided input to the environmental impact statement's terms of reference and also on the draft environmental impact statement report. These were prepared under the State Development and Public Works Organisation Act. Properly made submissions on the draft EIS—which are submissions made in writing and within a time period—were taken into account by the Brisbane City Council in its assessment processes.

It is clearly now a matter for the Minister for State Development to consider the development application he has called in under the Integrated Planning Act.

This has been an open, inclusive and accountable process and was taken into account by the people of Queensland when they voted at the recent state election. It is time to get on with the job.

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