



Speech by

DIANNE REILLY

MEMBER FOR MUDGEERABA

Hansard 7 March 2002

MUDGEERABA ELECTORATE

Mrs REILLY (Mudgeeraba—ALP) (10.27 p.m.): In the past 12 months, as the foundation member for Mudgeeraba, I have immersed myself in local issues and I have taken up the fight for local matters with ministers, and I continue to do so on a daily basis. I have enjoyed every minute of it. I have undertaken a major public transport project, with a survey to identify demand, and I have conducted research across the country and overseas. I have worked on a wide range of issues, covering almost every matter of state government responsibility, as well as some local and federal government matters which have been presented to me.

Ms Keech interjected.

Mrs REILLY: I thank the member for Albert for that interjection. Eight years ago, the Springbrook Primary School asked the then member for Nerang, Ray Connor, to help them obtain a safe drop-off zone outside the school to replace the gravelled parking provided across the road. Nothing happened. Mid last year the school approached me. I took Main Roads officers to Springbrook for a site visit and discussed a range of road maintenance matters with them. Primary among them was the school drop-off zone. I spoke to the district director and I wrote to the minister. The new safe drop-off zone on the same side of Springbrook Road was opened in January this year in time for the new school year.

I supported the efforts of the Mudgeeraba Creek Primary School's P&C to obtain improvements for their school. It was successful in its bid, with funds allocated to last year's budget. The enormous growth in the electorate means that its facilities must keep pace. My early representations to the Education Minister were heeded with the announcement of a new primary school for the Bonogin-Reedy Creek area, due to open in 2003. I am continuing discussions with the Department of Education regarding the development of a high school for the area.

I take every possible opportunity to communicate with my constituents and my Saturday morning mobile electorate offices, held once a month in different locations, are very well attended. As a member of the parliamentary Travelsafe Committee and four legislative caucus committees, I have also immersed myself in state-wide issues relating to road safety, the environment, justice, employment, training and vocational education, arts, youth, indigenous affairs, disability services and family and community services. As one can imagine, it is keeping me very busy.

In cooperation with my Gold Coast colleagues from Burleigh and Broadwater, I successfully lobbied for the Gold Coast to be included in regional arts development funding. This resulted in \$50,000 being made available for Gold Coast arts organisations who wish to apply for grants for arts activities and events.

The year 2001 was an extraordinary one for me and a great year for the electorate of Mudgeeraba. Many individuals and organisations worked very hard to bring issues to my attention and to effect positive change, and they are to be congratulated for their efforts. I promise that I will do all I can to ensure things just get better.
