



Speech by

Hon. PETER BEATTIE

MEMBER FOR BRISBANE CENTRAL

Hansard Wednesday, 18 April 2007

MINISTERIAL STATEMENT

Queensland Economy, Property Sector Benefits

Hon. PD BEATTIE (Brisbane Central—ALP) (Premier and Minister for Trade) (9.45 am): Later today I will be addressing the Queensland Division luncheon of the Property Council of Australia where I will be talking about these local government reforms that the government has announced. I acknowledge their support for the reforms. The Property Council is an important business body that is presently experiencing an unprecedented boom in activity here in Queensland. Its members are major benefactors from the population shift to Queensland that is both a result of our strong economic activity and a driver of that activity. My government supports business and we support development in a balanced way.

Today I can confirm that, although South Korea was successful in its bid to host the 2011 World Athletics Championships, we intend to press ahead with plans to develop the proposed athletics village site at Woolloongabba which was an integral part of our bid. It is located in the electorate of the Deputy Premier. The site was originally intended to house 3,200 athletes and officials during the 2011 World Athletics Championships. We are determined to press ahead with this project, which will be a modified version of the original plan to build 530 apartments and an athletics training track for the use of athletes.

It is not only an excellent opportunity for further urban renewal in Brisbane, but it will also give Queensland the option to bid for the 2015 World Athletics Championships if we choose to. The Woolloongabba site is part of our ongoing drive for urban renewal in inner Brisbane. Other projects presently on the urban renewal agenda include the \$120 million mixed use development at the Petrie Terrace police barracks site and a \$50 million urban village project at Boggo Road, which the minister for public works announced the other day. It is an exciting time to be involved in the property sector in Queensland.