



Speech by

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MEMBER FOR INALA

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CAROLE PARK

Ms PALASZCZUK (Inala—ALP) (10.30 pm): The residents of Carole Park have a problem that needs to be fixed now. The residents of Carole Park, which is located in the City of Brisbane, have an Ipswich postcode—4300. As a consequence, mail can take up to three days to arrive. Residents who attend medical appointments in nearby Inala are told that they are to go to Goodna because Goodna is in the City of Ipswich. If they attend at Goodna they are told, 'No, you are part of Brisbane. Go to the Brisbane office located in Inala.' It gets better. If an incident requires police attention, police are sent from Goodna—and this can take up to half an hour, if not longer—not from nearby Inala, which would only take five or 10 minutes. I am pleased to advise the House that this particular situation is now being rectified and incidents that occur in Carole Park will be attended by police from the Oxley district from 1 July this year.

Local resident and president of Neighbourhood Watch Les Mullins approached me about the postcode situation and urged me to find a way forward. I want to thank Les for his passion and commitment to this change. He has been a strong advocate for his community along with all of the members of the Carole Park Neighbourhood Watch. He showed me various letters that he had received from Australia Post and various federal and state government departments which simply stated that the postcode could not be changed. The other complicating factor is that, although Carole Park is in the City of Brisbane, Carole Park Industrial Estate is located in the City of Ipswich and hence Ipswich is the owner of the name 'Carole Park'.

Earlier this year I wrote to the minister for natural resources, Craig Wallace, to see if there was a way forward. The minister looked at this issue and offered a couple of suggestions—for the suburb to be renamed Wacol or Ellen Grove, both of which have Brisbane postcodes. In March this year I held two community information sessions for residents to have their say about this situation. Over 50 people attended the first session and 100 attended the evening session, and the minister ensured that representatives from his department were in attendance at both of those meetings. I am pleased to report that the majority supported the name change of Carole Park to Ellen Grove with a Brisbane postcode—4078. However, there were still several residents who expressed concern that they had lived in Carole Park all their lives and did not want the name to be changed. Therefore, I have written to the Mayor of Ipswich, Paul Pisasale, to see about the possibility of renaming the Carole Park Industrial Estate.

If the mayor is supportive, there will be two options for the community to make the ultimate decision: firstly, the name of the suburb Carole Park be changed to Ellen Grove with a postcode of 4078; or, secondly, the name Carole Park remain with a Brisbane postcode of 4078. If members think they are confused, how do they think the residents of Carole Park are? They are even more confused! I believe that there is definitely a way forward here. The outcome can only be good when finally a Brisbane suburb gains a Brisbane postcode and hopefully, down the track, even a Brisbane bus service.