



Speech by

Vicky Darling

MEMBER FOR SANDGATE

Hansard Wednesday, 2 September 2009

SANDGATE ELECTORATE; WATERWAYS

Ms DARLING (Sandgate—ALP) (11.37 am): The waterways around the Sandgate electorate are well loved and well used by residents and visitors alike. The announcement by the Treasurer of the sensible decision to exclude the Shorncliffe boat harbour area from the future sale of the Port of Brisbane Corporation was welcomed by my local community.

Last Saturday I enjoyed the company of members of the local sailing community as we celebrated the start of the sailing season and the blessing of the fleet. I acknowledge the tremendous leadership of Philip Lazzarini, Commodore of the Queensland Cruising Yacht Club. I look forward to working with Philip and the QCYC as well as the trawler operators, officers and cadets of the TS Paluma and the local community to secure a workable solution of tenure and management for the Cabbage Tree Creek tenants.

QCYC also hosts Sailability, an organisation whose volunteers take people with disabilities out on the water in specially designed craft. Earlier this year I helped launch another three of its boats, purchased with a Gambling Community Benefit Fund grant. The decision to remove the boat harbours from the sale of the containerised trading port shows that this government is listening to the views of the local community while maintaining its commitment to roll out the Renewing Queensland Plan. The Renewing Queensland Plan recognises that tough decisions need to be made to maintain our state's focus on jobs and economic recovery and deliver our \$18.2 billion infrastructure program.

Premier Anna Bligh's announcement last week of a \$5 million tourism campaign will also help protect Queensland's 119,000 tourism jobs. Moreton Bay is on the doorstep of the Sandgate electorate and is a growing focus of tourism activity. I believe that there is great tourism potential for businesses in my electorate. Local organisations are devising innovative ways to showcase the natural beauty of the area. I am proud to have played a part in ensuring that the Shorncliffe boat harbour is secure for the future enjoyment of yachties, canoeists, fishers and leisure craft.