



Speech by  
**Grace Grace**

**MEMBER FOR BRISBANE CENTRAL**

Hansard Thursday, 11 February 2010

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## **TENERIFFE**

**Ms GRACE** (Brisbane Central—ALP) (10.58 pm): Teneriffe residents are celebrating because on 29 January 2010 the *Queensland Government Gazette* announced that Teneriffe was no longer a locality within Newstead but now a suburb in its own right. Support for suburb status for Teneriffe has been strong amongst the local community, with residents of Teneriffe arguing strongly for the re-establishment of the suburb of Teneriffe.

In 2008, I helped to form a committee of local residents, business people and political representatives for the purpose of compiling an application to the Department of Natural Resources for suburb status to be once again returned to Teneriffe. The executive members of the committee were myself, Councillor David Hinchliffe and chair Vicki Bridgstock, my then parliamentary intern, investigating the restoration of suburb status to Teneriffe.

The Teneriffe Working Group held meetings from July through to October, discussing and organising the application process, boundary options for Teneriffe, mail-outs and public meetings to inform and consult residents on the process. Two public meetings were held on Wednesday, 5 November at Casa Italia Community Centre on the boundary of New Farm and Teneriffe. Maps containing three suggested boundary options were circulated at the meetings, and survey forms with the three options were distributed at the meetings for people to choose which option they thought would best represent Teneriffe. Option 1 was clearly the most popular of the three options. It also had the advantage of altering only the Newstead boundary and leaving Fortitude Valley and New Farm as is.

The application was lodged with the department and it conducted its own public consultation to change the status of Teneriffe. DERM administers the Place Names Act 1994 that controls the naming of localities and suburbs in local government areas. Importantly, the change to suburb status allows Teneriffe to have clearly defined boundaries to ensure computer addressing systems have accurate information. This is essential particularly for Australia Post, the police and community safety in general. A correct address could save a life.

Although the area has had a long, proud and unique history since the 1820s, the neighbourhood of Teneriffe was not defined by boundaries. This has often been the cause of confusion and problems. The name 'Teneriffe' has been in use since the mid 19th century. James Gibbon—a prominent property speculator and member of the Legislative Assembly—bought, would you believe, 48 hectares of land in 1854 between New Farm and Newstead and called it Teneriffe as it reminded him of Teneriffe Peak in the Canary Islands where he had spent some time. He built Teneriffe House on top of the hill, and it is still in use today. It is believed that Teneriffe lost its suburb status in August of 1975, when the boundaries of Brisbane suburbs were redefined. Today, Teneriffe is back on the map. Come on down, it is a fantastic suburb.