




Speech by

Michael Crandon

MEMBER FOR COOMERA

Hansard Wednesday, 23 March 2011

COOMERA ELECTORATE, SCHOOLS; WATERWAYS

 **Mr CRANDON** (Coomera—LNP) (9.28 pm): I am pleased to announce the addition of three new schools—almost three new schools. One is coming on stream in 2012; the other two have come on stream this year. Coomera Rivers State School is a prep to year 7 school. There are 270 students enrolled and that, I am pleased to say, is 20 per cent above the target. So that school is open now. It opened in 2011, and I had the pleasure of attending the first P&C Association meeting just the other night with a very enthusiastic group of ladies and men who are now well entrenched and ready to do some fundraising.

Mother Teresa Catholic School is a prep to year 3 school. It has 60 students. That school also opened this year. It is partnering with Woongoolba State School for outside school hours care. So the Catholic school and the state school are working together to give outside school hours care, and that is ably managed by the Beenleigh Police Citizens Youth Club.

The first sod of soil has been turned for LORDS. A week and a half ago we saw the first sod of soil turned at a special ceremony, with around 100 people attending. As a matter of fact, the member for Albert joined me on that very auspicious day.

Mrs Keech: Very special occasion.

Mr CRANDON: Yes, it was a very special occasion.

Mrs Keech: A lot of hard work.

Mr CRANDON: Absolutely. They put a lot of work in over a long period of time. They are going to be a pre-prep to year 8 school and they will be opening in 2012.

Growth in schools in Coomera is well and truly happening. We have many more schools in the planning stage around the area. That all comes about because of the growth in population. We are the fastest growing region in the world, I am told. That is perhaps a bit of a stretch.

Mrs Miller: No, you're not.

Mr CRANDON: I will not take any interjections suggesting that Ipswich or anywhere else might be growing faster. We are definitely up there as No. 1. We are the fastest growing region and of course we do need those new roads. Exit 54 has to be upgraded to accommodate all of these things.

That growth in population puts a lot of pressure on our environment. A healthy environment for our younger generations into the future is absolutely essential. Coincidentally, yesterday, 22 March, was World Water Day. That brings me to something that is a bit of a shame—that is, the Albert and Logan rivers once again scored an F for fail in the latest report card on healthy waterways.

(Time expired)