




Speech by
Jon Krause

MEMBER FOR BEAUDESERT

Hansard Thursday, 1 November 2012

**QUOCKA READING PROGRAM; KALBAR COUNTRY DAY;
BEAUDESERT ELECTORATE, PUBLIC TRANSPORT**

 **Mr KRAUSE** (Beaudesert—LNP) (3.41 pm): On 8 October I visited Kalbar State School to talk with Chris Muir, the principal, and some wonderful staff members and meet some of the students. It was refreshing to hear the insights of year 7 students. They were asking me questions about my role as their local member of parliament, including queries such as: ‘What is the weirdest thing you have had to deal with?’ and ‘What are the differences between the various levels of government in Australia?’

I also had the privilege of officially opening the QuoCKa Reading Program. Students from the local Boonah State High School will visit Kalbar State School and read to year 2 students. This program is all about encouraging reading and increasing literacy skills. Hopefully, it might also encourage some high school students to consider a career in teaching. This wonderful program is being sponsored by the Quota Club of Boonah, which has contributed a significant number of books. Can I thank the club’s president, Marea Teakle, for the club’s support of this program, the Deputy Principal of Boonah State High School, Lachlan Thatcher, who has fostered QuoCKa and the high school students involved.

Kalbar is a wonderful community. On 13 October it held its Country Day. From hay sculptures to scarecrow competitions, pumpkin and hay bale rolling contests, German sausages, country music, fashion parades put on by Debbie from the George Street Boutique and a marvellous 73-prize raffle run by the Lions Club, it was a terrific day for the whole community. The skies were blue, and it was excellent to see so many locals enjoying their town and also many tourists from outside the district enjoying Kalbar. I congratulate all involved in the day for what was a wonderful Kalbar Country Day.

‘Build it and they will come’ goes the old saying. The communities of Jimboomba, Cedar Grove, Cedar Vale, Undullah, Bromelton and Beaudesert in my electorate are located short distances from the interstate standard gauge railway line. They are all experiencing rapid growth, and will continue to grow. I am advocating, along with my colleagues in Logan and Algester, for the standard gauge rail corridor to be utilised to provide public transport to these areas. Plans to provide this service in 2026 or 2031 are, in my view, wide of the mark. We will need to take pressure off the local road network, including the main roads, well before then.

The rail corridor is perfectly placed to do this. The government should think innovatively—perhaps even look to the private sector—in order to put in place these transport services. A service between these areas and the Citytrain network at Acacia Ridge or Salisbury would link them with Brisbane city and the broader South-East Queensland transport network.

In short, this investment will help encourage growth in the community—growth that is supported by transport infrastructure, avoiding traffic bottlenecks in the future. Development at the Bromelton state development area is set to hasten growth in the region. Along with my colleagues, I will advocate for the transport department’s plans for this corridor to be brought forward, underpinning future growth in the Beaudesert electorate. It is exactly this type of infrastructure that the former government should have been investing in. The LNP government is doing the hard yards to get Queensland’s finances back on track, on the way to getting trains on track to Beaudesert.