




Speech By
Hon. David Crisafulli

MEMBER FOR MUNDINGBURRA

ADJOURNMENT

Vincent

 **Hon. DF CRISAFULLI** (Mundingburra—LNP) (Minister for Local Government, Community Recovery and Resilience) (9.57 pm): In the heart of my electorate of Mundingburra is a suburb called Vincent. Members here have heard me speak about Vincent on many occasions.

Mr Costigan: I used to shop there.

Mr CRISAFULLI: The member for Whitsunday used to shop there. There is a reason to speak about it, I guess. The suburb of Vincent is home to literally hundreds of families. Members may recall that a little more than 12 months ago it was subjected to a tornado that swept through and caused considerable damage. It is a suburb that gets a bad rap from time to time but it is, in my mind, a suburb that is shaking off the underdog tag.

I want to talk tonight about an opportunity for the suburb of Vincent. There is a seven-hectare site on Palmerstone Street—a very large site—a former nursing home owned by the state, which is being offered for sale in the community. During my time as a councillor in Townsville it was often the site of many complaints because of antisocial behaviour and long grass. It was just a general drain on an area that I believe is coming of age. It is prime land with a golden opportunity. I believe that golden opportunity is for residential development to take the suburb of Vincent to the next level.

I am not talking about what we often associate with lower socioeconomic areas and usually we only ever talk about opportunities for social housing. I am talking about an opportunity to create a subdivision in that great suburb that can be the benchmark for Townsville. The suburb of Vincent is literally only a couple of kilometres down the road from one of Townsville's best shopping centres, Stockland. It is a couple of kilometres down the road from the Army's Lavarack Barracks. It is a couple of kilometres from the hospital and the university. It is a suburb of great opportunity. I see this seven-hectare site as an opportunity to create a first-class development that our entire community can be proud of.

Tonight I put out a call to arms to anyone who is as proud of Townsville as I am and to anyone who is as proud of Vincent as I am to look at this opportunity to really take development in one of Townsville's older suburbs to the next level. Those of us who have local government experience will know that when you do in-field development and you do it right, it can save the community a lot of money. It can stop a lot of the troubles that come with too much expansion to the fringes. I conclude by saying that, like this great state, Vincent's best days lie ahead.