




Speech By
Hon. Tim Mander

MEMBER FOR EVERTON

BLACKWOOD STREET CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

 **Hon. TL MANDER** (Everton—LNP) (Minister for Housing and Public Works) (10.06 pm): I am a very proud supporter of small business in my electorate of Everton. We are very fortunate to have a number of business groups and chambers of commerce that meet on a regular basis to network and to stimulate small business in our electorate. Tonight one that I would like to centre on is the Blackwood Street Chamber of Commerce. Blackwood Street is the iconic centre of Mitchelton. There is a fabulous spirit about Blackwood Street and that is typified every month with the farmers' market that occurs on the first Sunday of every month. There is nothing better than to walk down Blackwood Street with its bustling market and have the chance to have breakfast with family and friends. Now that I have my son living in Blackwood Street as well it is even more of a reason to spend some time on this iconic street. There always seems to be something happening on Blackwood Street. Over the last few weeks I have been involved in a number of events. I had the great pleasure of opening Medicine on Blackwood just a fortnight ago. We have established a medical centre there, which means that we have local doctors in the area committed to the community: Dr Wong, who has been around for years, ably supported by resident psychologist Dr Kraushaar and recently they have been joined by Dr Kathy Williams. It was great to see those groups having confidence in the precinct. Garozzo Chemist across the road has developed a site to a bigger facility, which means they have confidence in that street and the immediate area.

It is always great to be eating at one of the establishments in Blackwood Street. There is Taverners that I regularly go to, managed by a young entrepreneur who was the chef there and has now taken it over. He has been in charge for just a little bit over a year, which is fantastic. Across the road we have Des Alpes, which has been there for more than 20 years. It is a fantastic Swiss restaurant that always puts on a fantastic feed.

Only last week I was involved in the launch of a website for the Blackwood Street precinct. It is great that one can go to the Blackwood Street precinct on the website and find out more about what is happening in Blackwood Street and the businesses that are there. The other wonderful thing about this group of people that come together, the Blackwood Street Chamber of Commerce, is that they are incredibly community minded. This Friday night at the Gaythorne RSL, another iconic part of my area—it is actually in the Premier's electorate but sits right on the border—is the Queensland flood fundraiser that has been organised by John Sinnamon and Jenny Noble. I want to thank and acknowledge them. I look forward to coming to the evening and raising some great money for the Queensland flood appeal.