




Speech By
Michael Crandon

MEMBER FOR COOMERA

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PRIVATE MEMBER'S STATEMENTS

Coomera Town Centre

 **Mr CRANDON** (Coomera—LNP) (3.30 pm): I rise to tell the House of some wonderful news about recent events in the northern part of the Gold Coast—the Coomera electorate. The fantastic news given to us yesterday is that the Coomera town centre project, a \$450 million development, has received the recommendation at committee level to go through to full council level. There are some provisions around the development. One restricts the development at this stage of the game to around just under a quarter of the size intended until such time as we are able to duplicate exit 54.

Members who were here in 2009 would know that I spoke about exit 54 in my maiden speech. Members have heard me talk about exit 54 many times since. There are two aspects to this issue that need to be discussed. The first is that for 18 years now the Coomera town centre has been on the drawing board. The good news is that it is beyond that now. We have a development application that has been approved at committee level. It will go before the full council next week. I am confident that the full council will provide a tick of approval to that development application.

Once that development application has gone through it is a catalyst for those who are involved in the duplication of exit 54 to come together and become far more serious about how we are going to fund the duplication of exit 54. We all know that, thanks to the Labor Party and the \$80 billion of debt that we inherited—the \$450,000 an hour that we spend on interest, the \$15,000 of debt for every man, woman and child in Queensland—that we have some challenges. We know that there are innovative ways to solve this issue. We are working towards resolving the issue of funding. There are innovative ways to ensure that exit 54 can be duplicated in a timely fashion. This would then allow Westfield to fully develop the 93,000 square metres of space that will become Coomera town centre. We are not talking about a shopping centre; we are talking about the Coomera town centre. It has been 18 years in the making. Another two years from now, I will invite all members down to enjoy the Coomera town centre highlights.

(Time expired)