




Speech By
Ray Stevens

MEMBER FOR MERMAID BEACH

Record of Proceedings, 11 September 2014

MEMBERS' STATEMENTS

Mermaid Beach-Broadbeach

 **Mr STEVENS** (Mermaid Beach—LNP) (2.34 pm): It is official: Mermaid Beach is the new hot spot on the Gold Coast, with investment, lifestyle and employment opportunities bursting through the roof in one of the most enviable parts of the Gold Coast and Queensland that people could ever wish to live in. Now that the Newman government has exorcised the criminal bkie gangs living in the area, with the hopefully soon-to-be-High-Court-endorsed VLAD laws, and with the party house legislation passed by the Newman government which will see out-of-control party venues banned from the region by council enforced town planning laws, the liveability of the Mermaid Beach-Broadbeach area has soared to new heights.

The liveability of Mermaid Beach has been further enhanced by the ultramodern G: train arriving on our doorstep at Pacific Fair, delivering passengers from Mermaid Beach-Broadbeach to all points on the way to the colossal Gold Coast University Hospital in a seamless, comfortable, new-age mode of Gold Coast public transport that makes movement to and from Mermaid Beach by public transport an even more attractive lifestyle choice.

Recognising the opportunities associated with this increased lifestyle improvement and living desirability, our major retailer in the area, Pacific Fair Shopping Centre, has embarked on a stunning \$680 million investment in refurbishing and expanding what is probably the best known shopping centre in Queensland. This will escalate Pacific Fair Shopping Centre to the stratosphere of the top 10 shopping centres in Australia. Work is well underway already, and the projected outcomes, from visuals I have seen, will make this international destination a tourism icon in itself.

Joining the stampede of investment in the Mermaid Beach-Broadbeach area, Jupiters Casino has committed to a \$300 million upgrade, particularly to the establishment of a top grade hotel tower which will also seriously enhance the rejuvenation of the tourism and entertainment facilities in the Mermaid Beach-Broadbeach area. Intertwined with the increasingly popular and extremely well-utilised Gold Coast convention centre, the Mermaid Beach-Broadbeach lifestyle and entertainment precinct will be both world class and world acclaimed by millions of tourists and residents over the years to come.

This ringing endorsement of the Newman government's deliberate and well-executed strategy of cutting red tape, stimulating investment and upholding a strong sense of law and order has led to a plethora of jobs, jobs, jobs becoming available in the fabulous area of Mermaid Beach-Broadbeach. With a billion dollars worth of investment in the area, concreters, tradies, restaurant workers and takeaway food shops are booming in Broadie. Thank you, Campbell Newman, for supporting my beloved Mermaid Beach area and all of its wonderfully lucky residents. I look forward to a glowing future in my little patch of heaven on Earth.