




Speech By
Ros Bates

MEMBER FOR MUDGEERABA

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MOTION

 **Ms BATES** (Mudgeeraba—LNP) (5.34 pm): I rise to reflect on the fantastic progress that has been made in creating a 30-year vision for our state and the impact this has had on my electorate of Mudgeeraba. As members of this House are aware, the Queensland Plan was launched as an unprecedented kind of community consultation that would see as many Queenslanders as possible contributing to a vision for the future of our state.

The Queensland Plan was announced in 2013, and since then well over 80,000 Queenslanders from throughout the state have had their say and outlined their priorities for the next 30 years. Through the Queensland Plan we can ensure that we have a road map for our future, crafted by local residents of our 89 electorates based on their unique experiences and world views. This plan will go beyond the three-year electoral cycle. It will go beyond the day-to-day rough and tumble of political life and ensure that, no matter the politics of the day, the needs and priorities of Queenslanders are understood and form the basis of policy in this state.

At a local level I have been absolutely privileged to engage with members of my community to ensure their voices are heard. We have ensured that the needs of Mudgeeraba residents are front and centre when considering how we can take our great state forward. I would like to thank the three members of the Mudgeeraba community who took time out from their busy schedules to take part in this important initiative of the two Queensland Plan summits. My electorate was ably represented by Councillor Jan Grew, councillor for division 11; Matt Kenworthy, president of the Mudgeeraba Redbacks Junior Rugby League Club; and Earle Hinschen, events director of the D'Arcy Doyle Art Awards. These individuals were uniquely placed to draw from their extensive community involvement and intimate knowledge of our local area to ensure that Mudgeeraba was counted in this important process. It is with their help that we have been able to create a plan that will guide us into the years ahead.

As a result of the Queensland Plan, this government has already acted to introduce the legislation which will benefit our state for generations to come. This plan is not the government's plan or the LNP's plan; this is the people's plan based around the areas of education, community, regions, the economy, health and wellbeing, the environment, people, infrastructure and governance. The priorities identified are very clear. We will enhance our education system and actively work to ensure that education in Queensland and at local schools in my electorate of Mudgeeraba is the best it can possibly be. We will ensure that we give students the best possible start to their lives and ensure that they understand the importance of learning in all that they do. We will maintain and enhance community spirit, inclusion and engagement, especially in communities like those in Mudgeeraba in the Gold Coast hinterland. We will foster sustainable and liveable regions in which all residents can live highly satisfied and prosperous lives. We will support our regions, their businesses and local communities to ensure that no-one in this state misses out on opportunities based on where they live. We will aim to be the best performing economy in Australia by 2044. We will aim to have the most competitive, innovative and multifaceted economy in our region. We will recognise that to do so it is

important that we protect our environment, like the fantastic hinterland areas in my electorate. As we support our growing economy, increased population, better education systems and more regional development, we will ensure that we have the infrastructure that we require.

This is a plan which will have a tremendous impact on every community across Queensland for the next 30 years. It has been great to see the level of enthusiasm not just amongst elected representatives but also amongst the broader public. In my electorate, the issues and priorities locals have raised with me when I knock on their door or catch up with them at local shopping centres or community events have been reinforced by the broad notions contained within the Queensland Plan. Mudgeeraba residents want the roads they need to commute into the future. They want to make sure that our 16 local schools continue to be well equipped to educate our young people. They want hospitals which can continue to adequately cater for our community. They want our natural environment and hinterland protected. We want our streets to remain safe and our communities strong, and these are the things I have been working towards since I was elected as their representative in this place, and these are the things I will continue to fight for into the future.