




Speech By
Rob Molhoek

MEMBER FOR SOUTHPORT

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ADJOURNMENT

Southport Electorate

 **Mr MOLHOEK** (Southport—LNP) (10.35 pm): I rise tonight to talk about some of the sensational things that are happening in my electorate of Southport. On 25 August I had the honour of attending the 70th anniversary of one of Australia's oldest Rotary clubs—that being the Southport Rotary Club. What a pleasure it was to spend the evening with Lea Rickwood, the current club president, and some 200 special guests from Rotary clubs all over South-East Queensland.

Last week it was my great honour to attend the launch of the Southport State High School business alliance. Southport State High School, as members would know, was one of the first independent public schools in Queensland. It has gone from strength to strength under the leadership of the previous principal, Steve McLuckie, who left big shoes to fill. The new principal, Nigel Hughes, is doing an absolutely outstanding job and continuing the legacy of change. Newly appointed deputy principals, Kate Shepherd and Damien Burke, are also a real credit to the school. It was great to be there with Shannon Willoughby from Study Gold Coast, who was the special guest speaker. Almost 100 local business leaders at that breakfast are supporting the school. What an incredible change that has been.

There has been a lot happening in Southport. Just this week in the *Gold Coast Bulletin* we read that of the 14 cranes on the Gold Coast skyline, seven of them are actually in Southport. There have been some 43 development approvals under the new PDA, which was declared by the LNP government during the last term of government, representing some \$2 billion worth of work.

It was great to also attend last week the official opening of the new premises for Quill business accountants on the Gold Coast at 3 Short Street. They have just renovated an entire three-storey building. Kevin Nichol, Peter Kirk, Mark Beveridge, Michelle Gargar, Richard Munro, Tony Marshall and Kris Kitto should all be very proud of the expansion of their business, not just at Eight Mile Plains and in Brisbane but their new headquarters in Southport. They have some 76 staff.

It was a great pleasure to attend the official opening of Zupp Place, the newly renovated business office tower at 64 Marine Parade. Neil Ferguson is the CEO. Queensland icons John and Wendy Zupp, the owners of the business, have expressed an enormous amount of confidence in the Gold Coast and continue to invest in office and commercial buildings not just in Southport but all around the city.

Southport is certainly coming of age as the CBD of the Gold Coast. I welcome the announcement from Malcolm Turnbull and the government for the extension of light rail—stage 2. We will see the CBD of Southport, the city's health and knowledge centre, connected to the entire city and to everything that is on offer in the north of the city.