



Speech By Andrew Powell

MEMBER FOR GLASS HOUSE

Record of Proceedings, 12 May 2016

ADJOURNMENT

Glass House Electorate

Mr POWELL (Glass House—LNP) (9.35 pm): It is indeed an honour to be serving the people of Glass House for a third term. I have to admit that I am still as excited today as I was on that first day, particularly when we deliver yet another project for the fantastic and wonderful people of the electorate of Glass House. I would like to spend a couple of minutes tonight reflecting on three such projects that through hard work, a lot of persistence and a lot of community support we have been able to deliver in the last couple of months.

First of all, I would like to talk about Maleny-Kenilworth Road. It has been a very tiresome project to try to bring about. I will start by saying we are long way from having finished it. Just before Easter I was contacted again by the people of Conondale and Cambroon—in particular, Mr Ian Fleiter. I spent an hour with Mr Ian Fleiter just before Easter. Whilst I cannot condone the actions of him and his fellow residents that occurred the following day, I can certainly appreciate the frustration that led to them blockading Maleny-Kenilworth Road. When it looks like it does, you can certainly understand—there is a 50-centimetre difference between the middle of the road and the bottom of the potholes.

Through getting on with it, and possibly through their action, we have now been able to deliver that upgrade—sealed edges on the side of the road, something they have been long waiting for. It does not stop. We need \$5.5 million to properly upgrade the road to make sure that we have double lanes so that the people of Conondale and Kenilworth in particular, and all of those tourists who come up to visit the wonderful Sunshine Coast hinterland, can travel safely on that road.

Another project is the Maleny Queensland Police Service station. That is now moving out to Macadamia Drive. Construction has started on that. When I was first elected, one of the first things I was asked to do was get more police for the Maleny district. During our term in government we increased the number of police from two to four and possibly we are now even at five. However, they could not reside in their current premises, so it was not long before we needed to get a new station underway. Construction has now started. We are very excited about that because it will also house a brand-new QGAP office and serve, I hope, not only Maleny but also the far broader Blackall Range area.

Finally this evening, whilst work continues at the Reed Street intersection at Glass House Mountains on Steve Irwin Way, construction has also started on the installation of lights at Bowen Road and Steve Irwin Way just down the road. This has unfortunately been the site of far too many deaths. Certainly, with the increasing number of accidents on the Bruce Highway and the increasing use of the Steve Irwin Way as an alternative route, too many of my residents get logjammed into their communities and cannot get out. These lights at Reed Street and Bowen Road will certainly assist not only my residents but also all visitors to the wonderful Glass House electorate. Again, these lights are the outcome of hard work, persistence and great community support.