




Speech By
Hon. Anastacia Palaszczuk

MEMBER FOR INALA

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MINISTERIAL STATEMENT

Anna Meares Velodrome

 **Hon. A PALASZCZUK** (Inala—ALP) (Premier and Minister for the Arts) (9.43 am): This weekend, the Minister for the Commonwealth Games and I will have the great pleasure of officially opening the Anna Meares Velodrome at Chandler. The naming of this world-class venue after Anna Meares is a most fitting tribute. When you think 'Anna Meares' you think 'Queensland champion'. Anna's record as a cyclist speaks for itself. She has experienced both Commonwealth and Olympic Games glory and has held multiple world and national championship titles. Most recently, Anna won bronze at the Rio Olympics. We all know the story of her amazing comeback from a horrific neck injury, a story of courage and perseverance that inspired us all. Although Anna announced her retirement from cycling last month, signalling the conclusion of what was a remarkable career, I am confident Anna's legend will inspire our next generation of track cyclists to train, compete and excel.

The velodrome itself is a \$59 million investment in the future of cycling in our state. The Anna Meares Velodrome will host the track cycling events for the 2018 Gold Coast Commonwealth Games. It will also provide incredible development opportunities for the local community and elite cycling in Queensland for many years to come. The Anna Meares Velodrome is the second of our three new venues to be completed for the Gold Coast Commonwealth Games. This Saturday we look forward to seeing Anna Meares when we open the new velodrome in her honour. What a fitting tribute to a great Queenslander!