




Speech By
Hon. Cameron Dick

MEMBER FOR WOODRIDGE

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ADJOURNMENT

Woodridge Electorate

 **Hon. CR DICK** (Woodridge—ALP) (Minister for Health and Minister for Ambulance Services) (6.57 pm): As the member for Woodridge, it has been an honour to represent the community for the past year. I have met with a number residents, community groups and schools and I have also been working hard to deliver locally and to deliver on my commitment to bring more jobs and services to my local area.

It has been a year of growth for the electorate of Woodridge, with a number of initiatives kicking off. They include the first round of the Skilling Queenslanders for Work program. The Woodridge electorate received the largest injection of funds in the state, receiving \$2.6 million. This money is flowing to eight local organisations to deliver 18 programs and create over 660 training positions. Since these programs began, I have attended some of the first graduations, including at Ikea, which partnered with Access Community Services. I also attended a graduation for trainees supported by the Crestmead PCYC.

In October last year I joined my fellow Logan Palaszczuk government colleagues for the announcement of a \$450 million upgrade to the Logan Motorway and key access points. This major road infrastructure project includes the upgrade of the Wembley Road interchange. I will work with the community through the consultation process to deliver one of the most significant road infrastructure projects to benefit the Woodridge electorate for decades.

In education, a \$2.4 million trade skills centre will be delivered at Woodridge State High School. This is just one of our approaches to tackling youth unemployment through skilling secondary students to plug shortages in the local jobs market. A number of new health services have also been established. They include a street university run by Noffs Queensland—one of the first in the state—and the launch of 1300MH Call, a mental health call line that is based in the Woodridge electorate.

On top of that, the first Positive Mindset Creative Arts Festival was held in Logan. This festival promotes positive mental health and free expression, providing the opportunity for local, primary and high school students to showcase their creative skills.

I have also been able to deliver two new ambulances to the Woodridge Ambulance Station and I am pleased to say that seven new first-year constables joined the Logan district based in the Woodridge electorate last year. The Logan Hospital is also in the process of introducing a multidisciplinary model ear, nose and throat clinic which will also become a training hub for GPs to upskill in ear, nose and throat conditions, the clinic being one of the first of its kind in Australia. I have also been pleased to announce an expansion of the Logan Hospital Emergency Department which will result in 41 new staff working there, nine new beds in the adult emergency section and two new beds in the children's paediatric section at a cost of \$11.4 million over the next two years.

These are just some of the initiatives that have rolled out across Woodridge since Labor came into government. I will keep advocating for the Woodridge community because I want to ensure that we are strengthening services and the economy and creating jobs for local people.