




Speech By
Deb Frecklington

MEMBER FOR NANANGO

Record of Proceedings, 13 September 2016

MATTERS OF PUBLIC INTEREST

Palaszczuk Labor Government, Performance

 **Mrs FRECKLINGTON** (Nanango—LNP) (Deputy Leader of the Opposition) (12.00 pm): Another day, another example of the Labor Party in Queensland being divided and divisive on issues of critical importance to everyday Queenslanders, and there is no more obvious example of Labor's division and its divisiveness than the conduct of the member for South Brisbane. If the member for South Brisbane is not trying to roll the member for Inala she is trying to hold Queensland back, and there is no better example of this than the proposed call-in of West Village. The member for South Brisbane has allowed a dark cloud of uncertainty to descend over the Queensland property industry through her unprecedented potential call-in of a project in her own electorate. It is hard to recall a more blatant example of an inappropriate use of potential ministerial call-in power to delay a construction project at a time when 24,000 full-time jobs have been lost in Queensland. Again, Labor is putting its own self-interest ahead of the interests of Queenslanders in what is nothing more than an obvious political attempt to appease the green vote in the electorate of South Brisbane.

We know the member for South Brisbane failed to appease the extreme greens when she lost the debate on vegetation management—a personal blow to the Deputy Premier after she made it a personal priority to overturn the LNP's sensible vegetation laws that supported farming families and protected the environment. The proposed call-in of the West Village project is yet another example of division towards the Brisbane City Council, which had approved the West Village project after consultation with the state government. The member for South Brisbane needs to end the uncertainty, stem the bleeding of confidence from the development industry in this state and not call the West Village project in.

Another great example is the foreign investor tax. The Queensland property industry is still reeling after 'Captain Risky' broke an election promise—broke statements that he publicly made as Queensland's Treasurer—and imposed a surcharge on Queensland's property industry.

Mr WHITING: I rise to a point of order. I ask that the member refer to members by their correct title.

Madam DEPUTY SPEAKER (Ms Farmer): Thank you. I did not hear that, but I warn all members that that is the protocol.

Mrs FRECKLINGTON: Surely after 18 months as Treasurer even the Treasurer, who is known as 'Captain Risky', knows by now that if you do not want something you tax it. What has Labor done?

Mr WHITING: I rise to a point of order. That is certainly breaching that same rule.

Mrs FRECKLINGTON: The media have even referred to the Treasurer as that.

Madam DEPUTY SPEAKER: I do not think there is a point of order.

Mrs FRECKLINGTON: Thank you, Madam Deputy Speaker. The 'closed for business' sign is firmly up under this do-nothing Palaszczuk Labor government. Let us look at the ASF project on the Gold Coast. There have been no formal statements and no announcements after 18 months of delay with the ASF casino proposal. There has been no consultation with the community about traffic or master planning on the Gold Coast Spit. When the LNP left government the \$7 billion Wave Break Island project was ready to go and would have boosted the Gold Coast economy. We worked with stakeholders to develop a clear plan for a casino and cruise ship terminal that would have delivered jobs for Queensland. Instead, Labor in its wisdom scrapped the project and now it is sitting on the fence feigning support for this but taking no action.

Today we have heard again about the Metro. If it were not bad enough that Labor has no plan for bus congestion in the city, it is actively going out of its way to stop other levels of government from planning to get this moving. We have heard the Premier saying that the Lord Mayor should ditch the project. How incredible! This is a project that Brisbane City Council is pursuing out of frustration because this state government is doing absolutely nothing to ease bus congestion in the city. It is clear that it has absolutely no plan to address bus congestion in Brisbane's CBD. All Labor wants to do is fight and divide instead of fighting for all Queenslanders.

Labor is now refusing to provide basic information to the federal government so that the federal government can release \$20 million to Queensland for feasibility studies into 14 dams that could boost agricultural production by \$1 billion and create more than 2,000 jobs. Labor is blocking vital projects like the Rookwood Weir. Even the federal government wants to give Queensland projects money—projects that would generate jobs—but this Labor government's first response is to fight and divide. We on this side of the House have a record to work with the federal government in producing infrastructure projects. We only need to look at the \$6.8 billion—

(Time expired)