




Speech By
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MEMBER FOR MOUNT OMMANEY

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ADJOURNMENT

Oxley State High School Site

 **Mrs SMITH** (Mount Ommaney—LNP) (12.21 am): I rise tonight to give the House an update on the former Oxley State High School site. It is probably appropriate I do this tonight given we have just passed the Planning Bill. For members who are not aware of the Oxley State High School site, I can tell them it covers approximately 22 acres in the heart of the beautiful suburb of Oxley. I can give a bit of history about the Oxley site.

The school was opened in 1966. In 2000 the school was closed down—by a Labor government, I might add—and in 2001 the site was made available to the fire ant program as well as a number of community groups and a very much loved dance school. The fire ant program was relocated in 2014. Since then, the police academy has been using that site for training purposes on a casual basis. I should also note that when the G20 was here in Brisbane some of the training was performed there. The site has largely been left to rot. Throughout 2015 I made a number of representations, either through the parliament or through writing to various ministers on a number of occasions, about the future of the Oxley State High School site, only to be given the silent treatment, the shut-out treatment or bureaucratic waffle.

Fed up with the inaction of this government, I have undertaken my very own consultation. With media support and community pressure, I am pleased to say that finally community forums will be held. As I said, I did my own consultation and about 300 residents who will be directly affected by this site were surveyed. I received 143 surveys back and those surveys showed an overwhelming response about what the community felt and what they wanted.

I want to express the biggest concerns here in the House tonight. The first is that I think Labor will be breaking an election commitment, given that they have been very clear on their position on asset sales. Another worry is the lack of genuine consultation. The community forums are only now being held after community pressure. I am also concerned that this is a foregone conclusion and the government has already made a decision. We will be watching this very closely and I will be pleased to report back to the House.