



Speech By Tracy Davis

MEMBER FOR ASPLEY

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ADJOURNMENT

Carseldine, Proposed Development

Ms DAVIS (Aspley—LNP) (6.50 pm): Last Thursday, we learned that Aspley electorate residents are second-class citizens compared to residents in the Deputy Premier's electorate of South Brisbane. While the Deputy Premier called in a development in her own electorate, Carseldine residents have been presented with a state sanctioned fait accompli proposing an additional 900 dwellings for 3,500 residents and a loss of green space, without any genuine consultation or objection rights whatsoever. Not only has this Labor government committed breathtaking hypocrisy in claiming to be opposed to such asset sales before the last election; locals have been stripped of their normal right of input into development approvals.

Labor governments have form in treating Carseldine residents shoddily with respect to any proposed development on the former QUT campus. The Bligh Labor government sneakily added the site to the Fitzgibbon Urban Development Plan without consulting with local residents. Any proposed development needs community input.

The site has been important to locals for a long time. It was originally a deed of trust for education purposes and, when QUT moved out of the local area, the Labor government moved in to renovate the buildings as a service centre for the Public Service. Locals were lulled into believing that doing so would preserve green space and local amenity.

However, now residents have been told that the site will be flogged off without consultation by a government that simply cannot manage its finances. That is despite an assurance, as recently as December last year, that there were no plans to develop the playing fields in the ensuing two years. This government's renewal plan states that construction will commence in early 2017. Therefore, that assurance in the parliament was not worth the paper it was written on, just as what Annastacia Palaszczuk said about asset sales cannot be trusted. We now know that this government will keep the Public Service government precinct, but from early 2017 construction will commence, adding commercial and retail space along with 900 dwellings for 3,500 people.

What is really disappointing is that the member for Sandgate, whose electorate is metres from this precinct, knows how important the playing fields are to our local sporting groups and how important the green space is not only to residents in Carseldine but also to his own residents in Fitzgibbon. He also knows there will be an impact on local streets that are already impacted by overflow from the Carseldine station park-and-ride and from the government precinct.

Carseldine residents are reasonable people, but what is not reasonable is that they were not consulted on traffic management and other issues before this new decision was made. If the mood in the broader community aligns with the mood of local residents to whom I spoke on Saturday at the Carseldine markets, the community is not happy with the way that they are being treated.

On Wednesday I asked the Premier about selling the Carseldine assets. It appears that she and her government think that they know better than the local community what is best for them. Whatever they are, the views of locals with regard to development should be heard and not dismissed by this unconsultative Labor government.