




Speech By
Hon. Cameron Dick

MEMBER FOR WOODRIDGE

Record of Proceedings, 23 August 2017

PRIVATE MEMBER'S STATEMENT

Leader of the Opposition

 **Hon. CR DICK** (Woodridge—ALP) (Minister for Health and Minister for Ambulance Services) (2.55 pm): The Leader of the Opposition has been out on his road-to-nowhere tour around regional Queensland.

Ms Trad: He's got a dirt bike.

Mr DICK: No, he was not on the dirt bike or in the tinnie. He was out in a place so familiar to him that he once called it Slovakia. Last week it was Townsville's turn. There he was: he had gone back to 'Stunts R Us', put back the thongs and the stubbies, and pulled on the Maroons jersey. What a figure he cut! He was game ready, match fit and ready to run right on to Suncorp Stadium as the mascot.

When the new Townsville stadium is built by Labor, when the new Townsville stadium is completed by Labor, the Leader of the Opposition will be able to reflect on it knowing that not one ounce of his effort, not one moment of his time and not one dollar from any of his budgets went into building it. The same goes for Metricon Stadium. We proposed it and the LNP opposed it. If it had been left to them, there would be no Gold Coast Suns, no Commonwealth Games, no Robina Stadium, no Titans, no Gold Coast University Hospital, no Gold Coast Light Rail and no Cross River Rail. That goes to show that Labor builds Queensland. When it comes to infrastructure, the LNP are as short-sighted as Mr Magoo.

In contrast, the Palaszczuk Labor government stands up for Queensland, including through our Queensland first procurement policy, which was quickly attacked by the trade ministers of Australia and New Zealand. I do not want to accuse anyone of conspiring with a foreign power to undermine the government of Queensland. Of course, that would be completely ridiculous, so I will leave it to Julie Bishop. However, I remind the federal trade minister, Steve Ciobo, that he has been elected to represent Queensland, as has the Leader of the Opposition. We do not know where he stands on Cross River Rail. We do not know where he stands on the procurement policy. We do not even know where he stands on the member for Gaven, but we know where he stands on the member for Broadwater. That is very clear.

The Leader of the Opposition has been called on to stand up for Queensland before and he proved to be an absolutely profound disappointment. However, it is not too late for redemption. When he travels around rural Queensland, he can stop at Barcaldine, stand under the Tree of Knowledge, the birthplace of the Australian Labor Party, and get a little bit of conviction. He can show that a Maroons jersey means something for Queensland and he can start standing up for Queensland.