




Speech By
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MEMBER FOR SURFERS PARADISE

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PRIVATE MEMBER'S STATEMENT

Bundall Road, Night Works

 **Mr LANGBROEK** (Surfers Paradise—LNP) (2.39 pm): I rise to speak about the Bundall Road night works in the electorate of Surfers Paradise and the impact that they are having on my constituents who reside in Boomerang Crescent, La Spezia Court, Binda Place, Rapallo Avenue and Salerno Street. With just over a year to go until the 2018 Gold Coast Commonwealth Games, works are ramping up for much needed road infrastructure in our city. That includes six-laning Bundall and Ferry roads and three bridge widenings along the route. However, whilst locals understand that they might be somewhat inconvenienced as these works progress, we must not forget that residents living around the area where these night works take place must also be able to enjoy their amenity.

Unfortunately, the night works at Bundall Road have left residents who live around the Sorrento Shopping Centre sleepless for weeks. I must say that in my 13 years in parliament I have not come across a more distressing situation for a group of constituents. I stand here today to share a resident's story. Last month I met with Sue, who built her house in Boomerang Crescent nine years ago. She said—

Christmas before last I was diagnosed with CML—Chronic Myeloid Leukaemia. There is no cure, only control. There are many side effects from the drugs and they differ markedly from one person to the next, but the most common and debilitating thing is the abject appalling fatigue. And this is true for me.

The combination of the drugs and the disease leave me needing a good 12 hours sleep at night and a nanna nap after lunch.

When I have not slept I am nauseous and migraine lights flicker even if my eyes are closed. At the start of January, a letter was slipped into the letterbox, warning of NIGHTWORKS for the next 2 weeks. And we figured we could cope with 2 weeks of it, but then towards the end of the fortnight, another letter was popped into the letterbox, warning of another 2 weeks of noise. The noise from the road works on Bundall Road, whether it is in the Boomerang corner or La Spezia or Binda Place or sometimes even Salerno Street is just impossible to sleep through. It is not a constant hum which perhaps your mind could shut out, it is the incessant slurping of the Vac truck at an appalling volume and teeth gnashing pitch, and the sudden slapping of the Backhoe bucket on the bitumen or the screech of the Vibrating roller thing, that is the last to leave the site more often than not after 5am. This is not 'sleepable' noise.

So on occasion when energy has permitted and I am flung out of bed by some terrible din, I have wandered to the site, not to be greeted with an apology or a 'sorry ma'am', no instead I am greeted with outright hostility and hatred. They call the police. Of course if sleep was possible, I would not be awake and standing on the footpath at 3 or 4 o'clock in the morning. If the noise was not so appalling, I would be asleep, allowing my body to do its best to control this insidious disease.

And if the complaints process was transparent and honest and rational and reasonable, then I would not be spending my DAYS stressing about the fact that I am not sleeping at night. TMR employees essentially told me to suck it up for ANOTHER 8 MONTHS. The 2 weeks of 24 hour a day screeching noise was the tipping point. If a truck goes by, my heart just breaks and I get up and look to see what is going on. We await the nights with dread.

I support the road improvements in my electorate and the efforts of the department, but a balance must be struck so that local residents can sleep and enjoy their amenity.

(Time expired)

