




Speech By
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MEMBER FOR SURFERS PARADISE

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MOTION: PALASZCZUK LABOR GOVERNMENT, POLICIES

 **Mr LANGBROEK** (Surfers Paradise—LNP) (6.11 pm): What a contribution from the Minister for State Development—no heart, no soul. He talks about continuing to work with investors and they listen carefully to community feedback. The government's own consultation through Donaldson Consulting basically had people coming back in favour of the ASF development. They limited it to particular community feedback simply because they wanted to save the member for South Brisbane from the inner-city Greens at the next election. He talks about a few million dollars for some prospective projects. They are tiny compared to the \$3 billion that the ASF project was pumping into the Gold Coast. The only project amongst all the private projects that he mentioned that involved anything to do with a state call-in or state land was the Jewel project in my electorate of Surfers Paradise. Importantly, that was one that the former deputy premier, the member for Callide, did call in that we approved, which really goes to show if we had not done it and it was up to Labor, it probably would have been rejected as well.

Last week the Labor government, being so Brisbane-centric, came down to the Gold Coast and had an horrendous week. They bumbled their way into the Gold Coast, sacrificed the future of the Gold Coast by scrapping the ASF development, hijacked the LNP's plan for a master plan and warped it so it has a predetermined outcome. They came to our city and left a trail of destruction. They slashed jobs—7,000 have gone in the last year—and 8,500 people have given up looking for work. They have killed investment and sent the message that the Gold Coast is closed for business. They do not care about the Gold Coast because if they did they would not be using our city, the place where 10 of us on this side of the House call home, as a political pawn to save the member for South Brisbane at the next state election.

The ASF Consortium project is a project that Labor's own state development minister called 'an important project for this state'. He said, 'As the people of the Gold Coast and the mayor of the Gold Coast have told me, it is a very important project for the Gold Coast.' This time a week ago he called in the people from ASF and said, 'I am going to read you three lines and I can't say anything else.' He was there with his chief of staff, the director-general of the Premier and Cabinet. He read them three lines that said, 'We are terminating this project. Goodbye.' That is what this minister did to a \$3 billion project. On 28 September 2015 Treasurer Curtis Pitt said—

The proposed resort development and casino will generate thousands of new jobs during construction and thousands more long term jobs and training opportunities once operations started.

The people of the Gold Coast cannot be blamed for feeling let down when the Premier and Deputy Premier suddenly turn their back on our city and this project and were pictured hugging a green activist celebrating this job-destroying decision. I table a copy of that. How inappropriate!

Tabled paper: Article from the *Gold Coast Bulletin*, dated 2 August 2017, titled 'Yay! Labor celebrates as Coast loses' [\[1248\]](#).

I note that in the last election the Greens polled 7.72 per cent in Surfers Paradise and Labor 22.74 per cent. The LNP polled 61.06 per cent so who on earth do they think they are listening to? They are not taking advice from their own consultation process which showed community support. They bowed to the wishes of a noisy minority. The *Courier-Mail* today reported that the Premier will be vying

for the 'hi-vis Premier' look during the election campaign. I am not sure how she is going to manage that on the Gold Coast where there will not be any opportunities if the Premier and the Deputy Premier have their way.

The mayor's cruise ship terminal will be next on the chopping block under this Labor-Greens government. A returned Labor government will never allow a Gold Coast cruise ship terminal to go ahead. The Premier has already stated that the Gold Coast does not need one—that was on 1 October 2016—and Minister Anthony Lynham has ruled out any use of the state land on The Spit for a cruise ship terminal. He said that on 23 May 2016.

I know that Gold Coasters have concerns about the post Commonwealth Games hangover that we are trying to protect ourselves from so that constituents do not miss out on jobs, infrastructure and tourism opportunities. Again we have been let down by a Labor government that has shown itself incapable of thinking past the political cycle and its desperate need to hold onto their own jobs. 'What will save us post the games?', the Premier was asked. The Premier said, 'Increased tourism, and we are going to give you \$5 million for a study into stage 3 of light rail.' There was no commitment to money for stage 3, just \$5 million for the study into light rail. We are replacing a \$3 billion project with a \$5 million study for light rail. This really is Labor voodoo economics. There will be a proper master plan under the LNP. There is a clear choice at the next election: Labor, which does not get the Gold Coast, or LNP members who want to make sure the Gold Coast stays the best place to live, work and raise a family.