



Speech By  
**Brent Mickelberg**


**MEMBER FOR BUDERIM**

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## **PRIVATE MEMBERS' STATEMENTS**

### **Sippy Downs**

 **Mr MICKELBERG** (Buderim—LNP) (2.55 pm): I rise to speak about Sippy Downs, which is one of a number of suburbs that make up my picturesque electorate of Buderim. Sippy Downs is just 14 square kilometres in size, but it packs a punch with what it has to offer locals as well as the overall contribution it makes to the Sunshine Coast region and, indeed, Queensland.

Hopefully, every member of this place has heard of the best netball team in Australia, the Sunshine Coast Lightning. In just two short years that team has become a national icon. It is an amazing elite sporting club that has quickly become the pride of the Sunshine Coast and it calls Sippy Downs home. Sippy Downs is bordered by the beautiful Mooloolah River National Park and the Maroochy Regional Bushland Botanic Garden. Sippy Downs is a close-knit community that enjoys tranquil lakes, local coffee shops and restaurants, more than 19 parks that are currently the focus of a strategic plan, and a sense of excitement about all of the great new things that are coming to Sippy Downs.

Sippy Downs is home to 6,500 people, of whom many choose to live in Sippy Downs because of its outstanding local schools, such as Chancellor State College, Siena Catholic Primary School and Siena Catholic College. Not surprisingly, the growing needs of this young community continue to be embraced by local businesses, entrepreneurs, commercial and light industrial investors and, of course, the Sunshine Coast Council.

Previously, I have spoken about the need for the state government to support the Sippy Downs community on issues such as solving congestion on Scholars Drive and investment in education. I welcome the recent investment from the state government in classrooms at Chancellor State College, but it needs to be said that, because of the massive increase in student numbers in my electorate, more work needs to be done. I applaud the council, in particular, division 6 councillor Christian Dickson, for recognising and developing a range of responses to growth in the area that so far includes planning for a range of community facilities such as a local library—something that the LNP committed to at the last election, the need for which has been recognised by resident Marie Dyer. Together with a few neighbours, she set up the first Sippy Downs communal library and free pantry, bringing the community together and breaking down fences one at a time.

The spirit of a community is always in its people and their dedication to each other. I wish the Sippy Downs and District Community Association well as it aims to represent the community on issues such as development, roads and traffic, transport, safety, the environment, community development, recreation and services for the youth and older residents. In my role as the state member, and a local, I look forward to playing an active role in the group for many years to come and, indeed, in the entire community.