



Speech By
Hon. Cameron Dick

MEMBER FOR WOODRIDGE

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MINISTERIAL STATEMENTS

Gold Coast Spit, Master Plan

 **Hon. CR DICK** (Woodridge—ALP) (Minister for State Development, Manufacturing, Infrastructure and Planning) (9.50 am): Queensland is Australia's growth state. Over the past 25 years Queensland has had the strongest population growth of any state in Australia. Yesterday Queensland's population reached five million. It is forecast to reach six million in 2029 and seven million 10 years after that. It is essential that a growing state plans for the future, because good planning leads to economic development, jobs and the creation of communities in which people want to live.

That is why proper planning is a priority of the Palaszczuk government. An example of this is the master plan for the Southport Spit on the Gold Coast. Recently I joined community members and key stakeholders on the Gold Coast for a workshop to shape the future of The Spit. The two-day workshop was part of the process of developing a master plan for The Spit to hear about the key themes, community values, desired attributes and future ideas for this iconic part of Queensland.

With more workshops to be held over three weekends in mid-July, late November and early 2019, I am confident the government's consultative approach will deliver the best outcomes for the Gold Coast and the broader South-East Queensland community—outcomes that tick all the boxes on environmental, social and economic issues; outcomes that are borne from the aspirations of the community.

I note a story in today's *Gold Coast Bulletin* regarding the City of Gold Coast's feasibility study into its proposed cruise ship terminal. The state is not the proponent but we will consider the planning implications of the cruise ship terminal as part of the master plan. The progress of the cruise ship terminal is a matter for the council, but like any major project it has to stack up environmentally, economically and for the community.

There are important changes coming to the cruise ship terminal market. The Palaszczuk government is facilitating the construction of an international cruise ship terminal for mega cruise ships at the Port of Brisbane through the market-led proposal program within my portfolio. The construction of that facility will obviously have an impact on the cruise ship market in Australia, and no doubt that will be considered by the Gold Coast City Council in the context of their proposal. I know that my colleague the Minister for Tourism Industry Development is conscious of ensuring that tourists disembarking at the Brisbane terminal can visit not only the Gold Coast but also other parts of our great state.

In relation to The Spit master plan, as promised by the Premier, we have certainly brought the public along on this visionary journey, starting with our initial consultations in February and March when more than 2,800 pieces of community feedback were received through a range of community activities. The feedback provided has helped us understand the community's appreciation of the current conditions, opportunities and challenges and, importantly, their aspirations for the future of The Spit. I look forward to updating the House as we continue to plan the best outcomes for The Spit.