




Speech By
Charis Mullen

MEMBER FOR JORDAN

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MATTER OF PUBLIC INTEREST

Jordan Electorate, Infrastructure

 **Mrs MULLEN** (Jordan—ALP) (2.30 pm): Last weekend I met with some new constituents who had recently moved into the electorate of Jordan. We gathered over nibbles and drinks at a welcome to the neighbourhood event in Spring Mountain. Spring Mountain may be unfamiliar to some, but it is the newest suburb in Greater Springfield and most recently was in the media as a suburb recording the highest one-year capital growth within South-East Queensland at over 103 per cent.

This growth may be seen as extraordinary but within my electorate of Jordan it is a reflection of the growth that is quickly becoming the norm. Over the next 25 years, South-East Queensland is expected to grow by two million people. Much of this growth is expected to occur in the south-western region, where much of the Jordan electorate resides. In fact, both Greater Springfield and the Greater Flagstone priority development areas are key parts of my electorate and they are growing steadily.

As the state member, I do understand the challenges and the concerns of my constituents when it comes to the infrastructure and services we need for our growing communities. Our government is certainly committing significant investment for infrastructure in this state—with \$48.5 billion over the next four years, and \$11.6 billion this year alone. This is an increase of \$2 billion on last year's budget and, sadly, almost five times what the federal government is investing in our state's infrastructure. We also know that this investment will drive our economy and support 38,000 Queensland jobs every year.

We are certainly seeing the benefits of this investment in our region. Major road projects, such as the \$78 million investment in the Mount Lindesay Highway and \$400 million for the Ipswich Motorway, will see greater movement through our region. I am also looking forward to the planning that will begin next year for the Logan Motorway to Yamanto section of the Centenary Highway. Of course, we should not underestimate the importance of the \$5.4 billion Cross River Rail which will provide great benefits for our residents by opening up the rail network in South-East Queensland and it will ensure we can deliver significant rail extensions, like Springfield to Ripley and the Salisbury to Beaudesert rail lines.

The upgrade to the park-and-ride in Springfield Central will benefit our region and detailed design for this \$46 million multistorey facility is currently underway, with construction expected to begin next year. Public transport for new growth areas in Greenbank and Flagstone are also anticipated and supported through the Greater Flagstone priority development scheme.

Investment in education is so very important, and we will see significant infrastructure for key schools in our region, including \$9 million for Springfield Central State High School, \$4.9 million for Flagstone State Community College and \$4.7 million for Augusta State School. We are also opening a brand-new primary school in Spring Mountain in 2019, with construction almost complete and a new principal appointed. Land has also been identified for a new state primary school in Greenbank which is anticipated to be delivered as the population grows in this area.

Health continues to be a priority for our growing region. The most recent state budget confirmed significant expansions of key regional hospitals, with \$124 million for the Ipswich Hospital and \$281 million for the Logan Hospital. I am also a strong advocate for additional public health services in our region to cater for the growth, and I know our government is also actively considering future police, fire and ambulance services and facilities within the growing south-western corridor.

This year I have had the opportunity to meet with a range of ministers along with departmental representatives to discuss the infrastructure and service needs for my electorate and our broader region. I have been greatly reassured by the deep level of understanding shown by our ministers and by the active planning that is happening across our government in addressing these needs. I appreciate that we are a vast state and there are always competing interests, but I feel very confident that our region's needs are being heard and that is good news for our community and those fantastic new residents of Spring Mountain.