




Speech By
Tim Mander

MEMBER FOR EVERTON

Record of Proceedings, 13 November 2018

**ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT (OXLEY AND YERONGA PDAS) AMENDMENT
REGULATION**

 **Mr MANDER** (Everton—LNP) (Deputy Leader of the Opposition) (5.53 pm): I stand to support the shadow minister's disallowance motion this evening. As a member with a South-East Queensland electorate, I have found that the biggest issues in South-East Queensland are congestion and overdevelopment. People have absolutely had enough of it. This side of the House is not anti development but we are anti bad development. The people who live in the suburbs of Brisbane are sick and tired of development taking place that is causing congestion and affecting their lifestyles. Development that takes place in this city should be consistent with the character of the suburbs and it should be sustainable. Appropriate infrastructure should also be implemented and delivered to cope with the extra populations. We are not getting this, and this Oxley PDA is a classic example of this.

Why is this happening? We have a larger problem here because we have a South East Queensland Regional Plan that has been forced upon regional councils and across South-East Queensland, and the poor councils get a bad rap for this. They are the meat in the sandwich where they have to go and implement unrealistic targets—

Mr Powell: Infill targets.

Mr MANDER: Infill targets. I will take that interjection from the shadow minister. The state government runs and hides and says that it is the council's fault. With this Oxley PDA, there is no doubt who is responsible for this. This is the Labor government's responsibility. The people of Oxley and the surrounding areas do not want this development to take place.

The member for Mount Ommaney said that the residents are now happy with the compromise position they have had to come to. It is because they had no choice. They knew that this was a fait accompli so they had to get the best result they could, but that is not what they want. The government's own engagement strategy in 2016 said that people want open green spaces. They do not want infill development, and that is what has been proposed here.

I can talk from personal experience in my electorate. Overdevelopment is a huge issue. I have the Warner Investigation Area in Warner, Eatons Hill and Brendale; I have a development taking place down the road from my office at Everton Park where Mirvac are going to develop an iconic piece of land, colloquially called Murphy's Paddock, into about 130 units; and I have development happening in Albany Creek as well. People have had enough of it. They are not against development either, but they want that development to be sustainable and they want the appropriate infrastructure to come with it. They do not want to be constantly playing catch-up, which is what is happening in this state. We cannot have these unrealistic targets for increased households and at the same time have an underspend of \$9 billion in infrastructure over the term of this Labor government, and that is what is happening.

The Deputy Premier and Treasurer in her own words said that we had an infrastructure crisis. The reason we had that infrastructure crisis is that she was the minister responsible for it and Labor have been in government for the majority of the last 20 years. These things do not just happen suddenly. They happen over a period of time because of a lack of investment.

I would counsel the member for Mount Ommaney to do what I have done and to consult with my community and to fight back and say, 'No, this is not acceptable. We won't accept this.' They need to go to the local councils and in this case the state government and say, 'We don't want this development to take place because we don't believe it is consistent with the character of our suburb.' I have to take the point that the shadow minister made about the irony of this. We would not be having this discussion if the Labor government did not sell Oxley secondary college in the year 2000.

Mr Powell: Shut it down.

Mr MANDER: Shut it down—that is what they did. They have done that for about 140 schools over the last 20 years, and they think nobody notices. They think—

Ms Simpson: Fudge it.

Mr MANDER: I will take that interjection from the member for Maroochydore—fudge it.

Mr SPEAKER: Member for Everton, no, you will not take that interjection. She is not in her own seat.

Ms Simpson: They're fudging it.

Mr MANDER: I now take the legitimate interjection from the member for Maroochydore, as she is now in her seat—fudging it.

I cannot emphasise enough how much of a hot topic this issue is for the people of Brisbane. People do not want Brisbane to be clogged up and become another Sydney or Melbourne. One has only to visit either one of them to realise how bad they are. Our streets are already clogged up. I know this is a situation happening not just in my electorate but right across Brisbane. We are determined to make sure that the development that does take place is appropriate and is consistent with the character of the suburbs, that there is proper community consultation and that the community actually does have a real say in this and it is not just an exercise in ticking boxes. Also we will ensure that the appropriate amount is invested in infrastructure so that we do not have clogged roads and so that we do have the bridges, the turning lanes, the intersection upgrades and also a public transport system that can cope with the increased population. I commend the shadow minister for bringing this disallowance motion to the House. I fully support it and I would ask all my colleagues to do the same.