



Speech By David Crisafulli

MEMBER FOR BROADWATER

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ADJOURNMENT

Broadwater Electorate, Railway Station

Mr CRISAFULLI (Broadwater—LNP) (6.09 pm): As the M1 is in such a disastrous state, more people are looking for alternate ways to come to the state's capital. That is why rail is so important for people living in my electorate and, indeed, in the neighbouring electorate of Theodore. I am most heartened to see the construction of a station that will service my electorate. The government has called for public consultation on this. It is due to close on 8 November. I sincerely hope that this public consultation is better than that around the upgrade to exit 57, which has been nothing more than public conditioning. The public has been given what was served up. A set of solar panels have been pulled out and will be put back in exactly where a slip lane should be, but I digress.

The member beside me and I have received two bits of feedback, one overwhelmingly on the name. A poll from our councillor, William Owen-Jones, has come back in favour of the words 'Hope Island' being in the name—maybe Hope Island Road Station. To suggest that calling it Helensvale North would be the right way to go does not seem to make sense. We believe it would be confusing, particularly with nearby roads and the fact that most people associate that with Hope Island.

The second and most important issue is around parking. The suggestion that 174 car parks will be sufficient for that station is absurd and it must be scrapped. That car park already services workers from the Department of Education who work in the same complex where my electoral office is, and 174 parks will cause mayhem from day one. I urge the minister and the department to have another look at it. There appears to be sufficient room. When you consider that the neighbouring station to the north, Coomera, has 540 car parks and it is already at capacity and it is craziness—and the member for Coomera has worked well with the federal government to get more money to put more bays in—when you consider that the neighbouring station to the south, Helensvale, has 900 stations and it is bedlam at times, to suggest that you should build a new station with only 174 bays from day one is absurd. It will be an abject failure. I ask the government to do something novel. Rather than build and then have a crisis and then look to fix it, do what good governments do: forward plan. Put the bays in place now and allow it to grow.

I will conclude by saying that both the member for Theodore and I will continue to advocate for this very strongly. It is a vital piece of infrastructure. It is a missing link in the process to ensure people can access rail more frequently, and a big part of that is having park-and-rides. If there is no park-and-ride it will not be efficient. It will not work. The government must deliver more bays.