



Speech By  
**Hon. Mark Furner**

**MEMBER FOR FERNY GROVE**

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Record of Proceedings, 4 April 2019

**ADJOURNMENT**

**Ferny Grove Railway Station, Car Parking**

 **Hon. ML FURNER** (Ferny Grove—ALP) (Minister for Agricultural Industry Development and Fisheries) (6.09 pm): In July 2018 Peter Dutton commenced his desperate fight for re-election by suggesting additional car parks for railway commuters in Ferny Grove. I understand that his desire is to build a commuter car park on land in Thomsett Park across Samford Road on top of Kedron Brook—a flood plain and wetland situated in the federal seat of Ryan. This is Queensland state land.

Late in 2018 billboards appeared in Keperra and Samford claiming he was starting a campaign to fix parking at Ferny Grove. At the same time, he took out full-page newspaper advertisements. I am informed that in November last year his office was provided with overlay drawings of two options—for 132 car parks or for 167 car parks. The options were provided along with the advice that the car parks could not be permanent and were not advisable because site access was limited and difficult, which is why traffic engineers had ruled them out.

In early 2019 billboards appeared after Scott Morrison's phantom bus tour of Queensland, where Peter Dutton claimed to have delivered 350 car parks for Ferny Grove at a cost of \$11 million. He has since clarified that this has nothing to do with the Queensland government's Ferny Grove TOD project. This week's federal budget has one line on this—'Commuter car park upgrades, Mango Hill, Ferny Grove'. It is a federal budget bottom line delivered over the next four years—four years too late, four years after the state government has committed to hundreds of extra car parks at the Ferny Grove Railway Station. The Palaszczuk government delivered \$9.1 million to build hundreds of additional car parks at Ferny Grove Railway Station two budgets ago.

We have to ask if there is any depth of trickery to which Mr Dutton will not stoop in a desperate bid to save himself. Mr Dutton has sold locals down the river because he wants them to park their cars in the creek. It is not a viable location. It is not a properly costed plan. There was no consultation with the state government. Mr Dutton's Venice style car park for gondolas will be at odds with that vital safety advice of 'if it's flooded, forget it'. It is about time he dropped this ridiculous plan for a car park so flooded that every car would have waterfront views. Mr Dutton has forgotten about the people of Dickson for the last eight years and he should forget about this ridiculous underwater car park plan.