




Speech By
Charis Mullen

MEMBER FOR JORDAN

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ADJOURNMENT

Jordan Electorate, Jobs

 **Mrs MULLEN** (Jordan—ALP) (7.09 pm): We know the economic and health impacts of COVID-19 continue to sweep the world. It is frightening to see the number of cases growing worldwide, and the recent outbreaks in Victoria and now New South Wales show us quite starkly that the battle is far from over. In Queensland, we have done a very good job in tackling COVID-19, thanks to our hardworking health professionals, the incredible leadership shown by our Premier and of course the diligence and patience of all Queenslanders—something I have seen in spades from the people of the Jordan electorate. Our economic recovery will require continued resilience. It is important to know that it is and will be a tough road ahead, but I am very proud of our government's strategy to rebuild Queensland's economy, create jobs and lead Queensland out of the pandemic.

I warmly welcomed the Premier's announcement yesterday regarding the construction of four new schools in Queensland—and I was particularly pleased to see that one of those will directly benefit new students in the Jordan electorate. The new primary school for North Maclean-Greenbank within the Greater Flagstone Priority Development Area not only is the first school to be built in this area in 127 years but will be the first of a number of new schools which have been identified to be delivered in the PDA as this area develops further. I know that the wonderful Greenbank State School is growing fast. I have worked closely with the member for Logan to press for a new primary school in this area—and our government is delivering with a brand-new \$66 million primary school which will welcome students in term 1, 2022. This will also support our local economic recovery, with almost 220 jobs in the construction phase alone. I cannot wait to see new students walking, cycling and scootering to this brand-new school in a couple of years.

Construction has also started on a brand-new \$10.6 million three-storey building for Springfield Central State High School, delivering 16 new learning spaces and two new external multipurpose courts—and all due for completion in early 2021. Of course, construction will also soon begin on our \$44.5 million Springfield Central park-and-ride, which will not only deliver around 1,100 carparks in the station precinct but also create 44 jobs for our local economy.

There is the Centenary Highway-Logan Motorway interchange upgrade, with \$15 million in funding and the creation of 15 jobs. I look forward to shortly sharing a further update on this much needed and welcomed project for our community. Of course there was the announcement of \$37.5 million for a jointly funded upgrade to extend the four-lane section of the Mount Lindesay Highway from Stoney Camp Road to Chambers Flat Road, supporting 80 jobs and continuing the incredible focus, importance and funding our government has placed on the Mount Lindesay Highway.

These are all projects that I have championed and supported in my very first term in the Queensland parliament and which are being delivered by the Palaszczuk Labor government. Locally in the Jordan electorate we are well placed to unite and recover, with key infrastructure projects that will not only create jobs but also provide certainty for when life resumes to something closely resembling normal.