



Speech By  
**Colin Boyce**


**MEMBER FOR CALLIDE**

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Record of Proceedings, 18 June 2020

**TRANSPORT AND PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE**

**Report, Motion to Take Note**

 **Mr BOYCE** (Callide—LNP) (3.49 pm): I rise to make a contribution on the Transport and Public Works Committee's report No. 31 titled *Inquiry into the Queensland Tennis Centre*. The committee has written a comprehensive report, which people may or may not have read. The report goes into all aspects of what has happened at the Queensland Tennis Centre in relation to providing a state-of-the-art headquarters for Tennis Queensland and a tennis facility for the people of Queensland to enjoy.

In terms of infrastructure, there is a total of 23 international full-size courts. There is a mixture of playing surfaces provided, offering players access to all of the grand slam playing surfaces: cushioned acrylic, natural clay and natural grass as used at Wimbledon. The international court facilities include the Pat Rafter Arena, a stadium based and covered centre court with seating for 5,600 spectators and a Plexicushion playing surface, exceeding Davis Cup size requirements; show court Nos 1 and 2, which have shade structures over them and Plexicushion playing surfaces; a further 14 courts with Plexicushion playing surfaces that meet International Tennis Federation full-size court requirements; four natural clay courts; and two double natural-grass courts.

The committee toured the facility and I can report to the House that it is magnificent. We looked into the effects of the 2011 floods and what happened during that event. Mitigation works have been put in place to further alleviate problems, should such an event happen again.

Many years ago, in the early 2000s, I spent time in local government when people were advocating for the development of the suburban block in Brisbane, to take further advantage of infrastructure such as water, sewerage, roads, public transport and so on. That brought about the demise of the backyard tennis court in Brisbane. Those who advocated for the construction of the Queensland Tennis Centre went some way towards replacing those lost tennis facilities with the provision of this state-of-the-art facility so that the noble game of tennis can be furthered, especially through our children.

In closing, I recognise Deb Jeffrey, the committee secretariat, and her team, who provide us with reports and so on. Theirs is a never-ending job. I recognise our chair, Mr Shane King, the member for Kurwongbah; Mr Bart Mellish, the member for Aspley; Mr Ted Sorensen, the deputy chair and member for Hervey Bay; Mr Robbie Katter, the member for Traeger; and I welcome to our committee Mr Lance McCallum, the new member for Bundamba. I take this opportunity to send a cheerio to the former member for Bundamba, who also sat on our committee, Mrs Jo-Ann Miller. With her unexpected resignation from the House, I did not get the opportunity to say goodbye to her. If you are out there, Jo, cheerio to you. The irony is that her nemesis, the member for South Brisbane, now occupies the seat right next to where she used to sit in the House.