




Speech By
Kim Richards

MEMBER FOR REDLANDS

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ADJOURNMENT

Redlands Electorate

 **Ms RICHARDS** (Redlands—ALP) (6.23 pm): Affordable and reliable transport is an important issue for the Redlands community, particularly those living on the southern end and on our Moreton Bay islands. I am proud to be part of a government that recognises that need to invest in the Redlands and plans for the needs of our growing community. That is why my government has and continues to invest in our region—the highlight being the long-awaited \$42 million duplication of Cleveland Redland Bay Road. That is a road that has been subject to broken promises by other levels of government over a decade.

This duplication builds on the Giles Road-Cleveland Redland Bay Road intersection upgrade completed in 2018. Work underway on the Old Cleveland Road on-ramp will benefit all Redlanders. In that context, this week it has been particularly disappointing to see our efforts continually undermined by the local council. I want to talk about a few fronts where that has occurred.

Last week, Redlands City Council announced its latest transport strategy for the city. That is a plan that took council almost three years to complete and a lot of ratepayers' dollars to produce. It is a document that is not a fulsome strategy and could be summarised as: the state must spend more because we are not going to. It also would have been nice to have council brief me before going straight to a media release. I do not think anybody likes seeing politics by media release. We all know that when we work together, we can get more done and we get better outcomes.

On that note, it was even more disappointing to see another media release this week on our island jetty upgrades—a project that we have been working on collaboratively with council and our community. Open houses were held in November that were really successful with our architects, engineers and the community. In terms of the council's media release, I want to correct the record. TMR officers have been urging council for months now to put their signature on the dotted line, in a better than a fifty-fifty funding deal for the \$34 million project. I want to see construction works start as soon as possible, and this is just causing unnecessary delays. Only council can explain why they have chosen to drag out the process. I am not sure why. What is disappointing is that the mayor has stated in the media release that the agreement would be signed. I can advise that as at lunchtime today it is still not signed, and we are heading close to caretaker mode.

Finally, I want to talk about the Kinross Road Structure Plan and particularly Kinross Road. Hundreds and hundreds of homes have been built off this road in recent years, including on our federal member's property. It is a road that is one way in and one way out. Kinross is a council road that connects to Boundary Road, a state controlled road, for which my government, the Palaszczuk government, has installed signalisation at the intersection. I have had representation from a number of people, including aspiring councillors, the current councillor and constituents, about making improvements to the signalised lights and intersection.

However, what has to be pointed out is that with these hundreds of homes the council is yet to upgrade Kinross Road. It is like a goat track—narrow, unmarked lines in places and with edges eroding. It is fair to assume that for each new home council has received their infrastructure charges and contributions, so I am unsure why today the road sits there not being upgraded. Before we can even look at doing any improvements to that intersection, I urge council to get on with the job, upgrade that goat track and make it a proper road for all of those residents.