




Speech By
Kim Richards

MEMBER FOR REDLANDS

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ADJOURNMENT

Redlands Electorate

 **Ms RICHARDS** (Redlands—ALP) (7.21 pm): Queensland continues to lead the way in uniting and recovering from the challenges that the COVID-19 global pandemic has presented. Our economic recovery plan continues full steam ahead, supporting local businesses, delivering new infrastructure and creating jobs. After the last sitting it was wonderful to have the Deputy Premier join the member for Capalaba and me to announce a new \$50 million much needed Redland Hospital carpark. I am pleased to say that tenders have already been sought. Last week it was also wonderful to meet with Dr Lucy Ooi and her ophthalmology team. The hospital will provide a new service to treat Redlands patients closer to home. That is a fantastic new service for our community. In stark contrast to those opposite who closed beds and sacked frontline staff, we will continue to invest in our Redland Hospital.

At Victoria Point High School, the \$2 million hall expansion project is currently under construction. That will be fantastic for both the school and our local community. It builds on the great work completed last year with our \$1 million new resource centre upgrade. Design works are well underway on the Redlands District Special School's \$9 million new learning precinct and the Thornlands State School's \$250,000 administration refurbishment. Importantly, design and tendering works are underway on the hard-fought-for air conditioning of all our Redland schools.

Works have kicked off on Cleveland-Redland Bay Road, starting at Boundary Road and currently working up to Magnolia Parade. That work will continue with the long-awaited Anita Street upgrade, which will see dual laning commence and move north as part of our \$60 million stage 1 works. That includes \$15 million under the COVID investment program. I have received a project update for the \$34 million worth of new ferry terminals that will be delivered concurrently for our southern Moreton Bay islands. Construction documentation is being finalised and tenders are expected to be called at the end of August. It is all happening in the Redlands at the moment. Those projects will transform our islands, the arrival experience and the movement experience for locals and visitors.

Our government will always invest in skills and jobs creation. I am so proud to be part of the Palaszczuk government. Our government has reinstated the Skilling Queenslanders for Works program, which was cut by the Newman LNP government. In just on two years we have seen an investment of over \$1.5 million in programs in the Redlands, delivering new and improved community assets and, at the same time, providing skills, training and employment pathways for our community.

Last week it was fantastic to have Minister Fentiman visit Redlands. She was able to check out the Redlands Rugby League Football Club, which is looking fantastic under the Skilling Queenslanders for Works upgrade. The clubhouse looks terrific. It has been a catalyst for the local community to get in and back the rugby club. They have just completed the new Parrots Perch Hill Bar, which looks fantastic. The club is looking topnotch. The minister and I also had the chance to visit Jeff and Darlene from Salads Made Fresh. During COVID, our adaptation grants have been fantastic for the Redlands. The government has provided \$22.6 million in QRIDA small business loans and over \$220,000 in small business grants for the Redlands. As I said, we are delivering in spades. I will keep working hard for my community. The Redlands is going great guns.