




Speech By
Mark Robinson

MEMBER FOR OODGEROO

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ADJOURNMENT

Oodgeroo Electorate

 **Dr ROBINSON** (Oodgeroo—LNP) (7.18 pm): Redlands Coast residents have warmly embraced the LNP's local team for this October state election: Henry Pike for Redlands, Bev Walters for Capalaba, Kिरिली Boulton for Springwood and I are working to ensure that Redlands Coast gets its fair share. Henry Pike's Facebook video recently featured his valiant effort to park his car at Redland Hospital. Many frustrated Redlands people shared how they just want to park within walking distance of the main entrance. Some \$16 million of LNP federal government funding for a multilevel car park has sat on the table for over a year, but the government still does nothing. For six years I have called for an intensive care unit for Redland Hospital, but Labor said no. Redland Hospital was not ready for this coronavirus pandemic, and I again call on the Premier and new Treasurer to increase the critical care capacity of Redland Hospital to not leave Redlands people vulnerable to such pandemics again.

With respect to transport and road projects we see delays and excuses, including the Gateway on-ramp at Old Cleveland Road and the five transit lanes on the Eastern Transitway. There is no construction, just more broken promises. Speaking of the government's unresponsiveness, my letter to the Premier about working together for a recovery plan for North Stradbroke Island went unanswered. Weeks ago I asked for the government's COVID-19 recovery plan but heard nothing. I table the letter to the Premier.

Tabled paper: Letter, undated, from the member for Oodgeroo, Dr Mark Robinson MP, to the Premier and Minister for Trade, Hon. Anastacia Palaszczuk, and the Chief Health Officer, Queensland Health, Dr Jeannette Young [773](#).

It calls for a planned, staged opening—first to property owners and off-road beach four-wheel drive tourists, dropping the Straddie tax, then opening up progressively and with new tourism funding to promote a midyear school holiday return of tourists. However, the Labor government fumbled it. Without notice, they announced a partial opening of the island to day visitors last weekend, but only on the day before. Local businesses and ferry companies were left scrambling, and day visitors came over to an island in virtual lockdown. Labor's ad hoc approach to Straddie shows that the residents are still an afterthought. Their recovery strategy is paying higher taxes, like the job-destroying beach four-wheel drive tourism tax.

Redlanders have patiently waited five years for a fully-fledged local Mt Cotton named and licensed rural fire brigade, one in which local volunteers could fight bushfire emergencies. Instead, Springwood MP, Mick de Brenni, announced a fire service that is not locally based, has no local licence to operate, has no local budget, has no local assets like trucks and a shed and will not allow local volunteers to put out bushfires—yes, an army of firefighting volunteers who cannot put out bushfires. It is time for Minister de Brenni and local Redlands MPs Kim Richards and Don Brown to stand up to the union and stand up for the Redlands community so that they are protected during the next fire season.