




Speech By
Michael Hart

MEMBER FOR BURLEIGH

Record of Proceedings, 21 May 2020

PRIVATE MEMBER'S STATEMENT

City of Gold Coast, Planning Division; Coronavirus, Testing

 **Mr HART** (Burleigh—LNP) (2.38 pm): I rise this afternoon to talk about some perverse outcomes that are coming out of the Gold Coast city council and their planning division. In my electorate of Burleigh, which takes in Palm Beach, we are seeing some developments being approved that are completely inappropriate for the area.

I recently wrote to Minister Dick before his elevation and asked him to call in a development on The Esplanade in Burleigh. That development exceeds every acceptable outcome that the council have put forward, but it apparently meets something that is called a performance outcome. This is what we are seeing in that building: instead of densities being 33 square metres per unit, the council have approved 10 square metres per unit; instead of having the appropriate setbacks from the edge of the property, the council have approved those buildings to have setbacks from the building next door; and the site cover is completely over what would be an acceptable outcome but it again meets this so-called performance outcome.

I wrote to the minister and I asked him to call that project in. He came back to me and said that he could only call things in that had an effect on the state. As I said, this particular building is on the Esplanade. The Esplanade has a carrying capacity of 3,000 cars, but the Gold Coast city council survey has identified that 4½ thousand cars a day are currently using the Esplanade—before this building is even built. I would tend to think that that is an issue that does affect the state and the minister should have been in a position to call that in.

I also wrote to the minister about development outcomes in Palm Beach. The council on the Gold Coast has changed the planning height for certain areas of Palm Beach, but the minister tells me that they have not sent that to him for his approval. I have learned recently that the council is now, for the third time, going out to consultation about this particular plan. That is despite the fact that they told people before the council election that this was already in place. These decisions from the Gold Coast city council and their planning are completely inappropriate for the people of my area and I do not accept them. I will table these documents and I will send them electronically after I complete my speech.

Tabled paper: Letter, dated 5 March 2020, from the member for Burleigh, Mr Michael Hart MP, to the Minister for State Development, Manufacturing, Infrastructure and Planning, Hon. Cameron Dick, titled 'Gold Coast City Council MCU/2019/443' [809](#).

Tabled paper: Letter, dated 5 March 2020, from the member for Burleigh, Mr Michael Hart MP, to the Minister for State Development, Manufacturing, Infrastructure and Planning, Hon. Cameron Dick, titled 'Gold Coast City Council Town Plan changes' [810](#).

Tabled paper: Letter, dated 30 March 2020, from the Minister for State Development, Manufacturing, Infrastructure and Planning, Hon. Cameron Dick, to the member for Burleigh, Mr Michael Hart MP, regarding ministerial powers to call in the development application for 112 The Esplanade Pty Ltd at Burleigh Heads [811](#).

Tabled paper: Letter, dated 27 March 2020, from the Minister for State Development, Manufacturing, Infrastructure and Planning, Hon. Cameron Dick, to the member for Burleigh, Mr Michael Hart MP, regarding development in Palm Beach [812](#).

In the few seconds remaining I wish to say that I was terribly disappointed with the Premier doubling down this morning. I refer to when she came in here and told the parliament that, according to the Chief Health Officer, the COVID-19 test may not, in fact, pick up COVID-19. They are doing exactly that at the Rockhampton nursing home; they are testing everybody there. Why are they doing that if that is not the case? I challenge the chief medical officer to tell us this herself.

(Time expired)