




Speech By
Nikki Boyd

MEMBER FOR PINE RIVERS

Record of Proceedings, 19 February 2020

ADJOURNMENT

Warner, Housing Development

 **Ms BOYD** (Pine Rivers—ALP) (7.27 pm): Last night the residents in my community slept very soundly as the Moreton Bay Regional Council unanimously rejected a development application to make one industrial lot of land into 129 small lot houses in Warner yesterday. The issue of development in Warner has been looming for a number of years now, and over time we have seen community awareness and activism grow. In fact, I went to the last election opposing council's Warner Investigation Area plan and reinforcing my commitment to protect koala habitat; to deliver congestion-busting road and intersection upgrades; and to have no heavy industry or overdevelopment, a sustainable non-industrial future for the quarry and the sandblasting site, additional public consultation and stronger laws to stop land clearing.

It became very obvious to my community that the approval of this development in Warner would be a blow to both the koala and the wallum froglet and to the ecosystem more broadly. We know there are approximately 25 koalas located through this area—16 of which are tagged and tracked thanks to CSR's efforts. We know their names and we know that they matter.

One hundred and sixty residents lodged submissions against the development voted down yesterday. They cited the lack of schools, medical centres, drainage and stormwater infrastructure, and traffic issues. I understand that the protection of the koalas in this location has been a topic of discussion in the media.

Let me put this on the record about the protection of the koalas. The Moreton Bay Regional Council wrote to the LGAQ in August stating that they were not going to provide specific local areas for inclusion in the state's mapping. As the local member, I have raised this issue and my serious concerns directly with the minister. Minister Enoch has assured me that she has asked the director-general to ensure that the parcel of land in Warner has the appropriate protections. 'Appropriate protections' means equal or greater protections prior to the recent change. Yesterday, I wrote to Minister Enoch requesting the development in Warner be included as a koala project case study in the koala conservation strategy. I table that letter for the benefit of the House.

Tabled paper: Letter, dated 18 February 2020, from the member for Pine Rivers, Ms Nikki Boyd MP, to the Minister for the Environment and the Great Barrier Reef, Minister for Science and Minister for the Arts, Hon. Leanne Enoch, regarding biodiversity [\[301\]](#).

Today, she has agreed to my request and that will occur. Let us be clear: these are the strongest koala protections that the Palaszczuk Labor government has introduced in Queensland's history. Our community expects all of us at all levels of government to work together to enhance our neighbourhoods while protecting our precious environment. That means that we need to engage, to understand and ultimately to deliver a better outcome.

I again extend my congratulations to the Warner Working Group and Save our Community Warner for the determined and impassioned campaign that they all ran. It has been a pleasure to work with you and for you for the betterment of our neighbourhood.