




Speech By
Trevor Watts

MEMBER FOR TOOWOOMBA NORTH

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ADJOURNMENT

Toowoomba North Electorate

 **Mr WATTS** (Toowoomba North—LNP) (7.24 pm): I rise to talk about a great P&C that I look forward to working with—that is, the Wilsonton State High School P&C. In the past the community and I have had great success working together to get a great sports hall. As the school has grown, traffic management problems have developed at the front of the school. A lot of kids trying to cross the road get trapped by the lights. We need a scramble crossing and a safe zone. I commit to working very hard with the community to make a safe environment for the kids to get to and from school.

There is also a great P&C at Fairview Heights State School where traffic management and parking is become an increasing issue as the council has put stronger restrictions on street parking. That problem must be solved. I will be representing them and working hard to ensure that we have better parking for all of the community so that the kids can be picked up safely from that school.

There are lots of things going on in my electorate. In the suburb of Blue Mountain Heights, the people who live in Skyline Drive and other areas now find themselves exposed to the Second Range Crossing and the terrible noise coming from the G brakes of vehicles that are running above the legal limit. I commit to working with that community to ensure that we solve the problem on the second range crossing, which has destroyed the peace and quiet that they had. Operators are running vehicles that are too loud and they have to be stopped.

The New Acland coalmine will deliver jobs and economic opportunities to people in our region, but this government continually hesitates on the project. Labor has no stomach for providing those jobs and opportunities for my community. I will be working hard to make sure that those jobs and opportunities exist for the people of my region going forward.

The Boundary Street connection will take a great deal of pressure off the community of Highfields, off the New England Highway. We need a business case. We need to ensure that we protect the corridor so that we have a future opportunity to build a road there and bust the congestion as it builds. A little problem that we have on the New England Highway is with the bike path. You cannot get off the highway and safely onto Hi Winds Road and a couple of other roads. When trucks turn, they stick out into the highway because they cannot cross the bike path. They have to give way. It is a really dangerous situation.

Those are local problems in my area. As a strong local voice for my community, I will make sure that we deliver solutions for the community going forward. It is unacceptable that people have to deal with dangerous road crossings when trying to get home.

(Time expired)