



Speech By  
**Brent Mickelberg**


**MEMBER FOR BUDERIM**

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Record of Proceedings, 28 October 2021

### **PRIVATE MEMBERS' STATEMENT**

#### **Buderim Electorate, Infrastructure; Coronavirus, Border Restrictions**

 **Mr MICKELBERG** (Buderim—LNP) (2.30 pm): The Sunshine Coast population has exploded in the last 18 months and it is little wonder why. We have a laid-back lifestyle with every opportunity to prosper, but we must protect that lifestyle and that comes from well-planned development and investment in infrastructure. The Harmony community in my electorate is the fastest growing master planned estate in Australia. We have seen people camping outside the sales office overnight to buy blocks in the latest land releases.

There are 12,000 people expected to call Harmony home by 2025, and that is six years ahead of schedule. Public infrastructure must keep up. LNP leader David Crisafulli and I met with local builders and key industry groups in Harmony last week. They have never been busier, but they are facing obstacles around material and skilled labour shortages, as well as red-tape restrictions. They are pushing forward to build new homes and keep up with the unprecedented demand, but we need a state government that invests in infrastructure to support this rapidly growing community.

As it stands, there is just one road in and out of Palmview. It is a daily traffic jam, not to mention a safety risk. There must be more roads linking developments like Harmony, including a road onto the Bruce Highway. We need to see proactive engagement from the Minister for Transport and Main Roads and the Sunshine Coast Council, because it is residents who are disadvantaged because of their delays.

There is currently no regular bus service operating in Palmview. It is a joke that Palmview do not have any meaningful public transport to connect them to other parts of the Sunshine Coast and to relieve traffic congestion. I note that the developers have provided a considerable amount of funding to deliver that public transport for Palmview and that the Sunshine Coast Council collect a transport levy from every single property owner on the Sunshine Coast, including those who live in Palmview. I would ask the question: what benefit do Sunshine Coast residents get for that levy?

There must be better planning to support our growing communities. Palmview residents are choosing to invest in the Sunshine Coast region and the state government must do the same. Investment from the state government and from the Sunshine Coast Council in places like Palmview must be a priority as we continue to see more and more residents move to the Sunshine Coast in droves. Failure to do so will only exacerbate the challenges that are already facing our community.

Before I finish, I also want to raise the plight of many thousands of Queenslanders who are effectively refugees locked out of their own state by a state government that cannot adequately plan and whose response to the problem has been completely and utterly heartless. I have been inundated by Sunshine Coast residents who are locked out of their home state—locals like Patrick who had to rush to Sydney to see his dying father when his health deteriorated quickly and whose father then passed away a day later. Patrick accepts that he will need to quarantine on his return, but he cannot

even get an answer from the exemptions unit, let alone a date when he will be reunited with his wife and young children. Queenslanders like Patrick deserve better than to be treated as refugees. I have written to the minister and I will continue to fight to ensure that every Queenslanders is able to return home.