




Speech By
Christopher Whiting

MEMBER FOR BANCROFT

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ADJOURNMENT

Bancroft Electorate, Infrastructure

 **Mr WHITING** (Bancroft—ALP) (7.10 pm): Today we have heard about the record spend on infrastructure by the Palaszczuk government this financial year and we are certainly seeing evidence of that in the seat of Bancroft. I can report to the House that we are charging ahead with our local projects. For example, every day I pass the Deception Bay Road overpass project on the Bruce Highway, as do tens of thousands of other people who travel up and down the highway. It is a \$163 million joint program with 80/20 funding from the federal and state governments, involving two three-lane bridges over the highway and two major intersections. As I have said, the project is progressing extremely well. The abutments and pylons are about to be cast to seat the 28-metre-long girders that each weigh 64 tonnes. Dozens of those girders will probably be used on the project. Later in the year a 500-tonne crane will be in place on the highway to put them into position. You can also see the piling for the northbound onramp being constructed and where the new weighbridge will be relocated. As I said, it is a huge project that is much needed and much appreciated.

In another part of the electorate, at North Lakes work is progressing on the sports fields at Kinsellas Road and North Lakes State College. The rejuvenation of adjacent fields is another much needed project. Each winter 1,800 football players use those joint council and state school fields. They are very well used. We managed to get \$1 million for the project through the schools component of the Activate! Queensland program and I thank Minister de Brenni for that. It is very much welcomed. The North Lakes State College and the council are working in true partnership. Thanks go to Scott Lutteral, the business manager at North Lakes State College, and Tony Clarke from the Caboolture sports group. The turf has been laid and the LED lights have been installed. The amenities block will be next and the tender is being awarded for that. That is much needed because North Lakes State College has an award-winning women's Rugby team that needs a changing shelter. A shade shelter will then be built and, budget permitting, some spectator seating will be provided.

I want to mention the funding for the Deception Bay athletics track, which is very much appreciated. On 7 October 2020 we announced that a re-elected Palaszczuk government would give \$1 million to that project. Once again it is a joint project between ourselves, the federal government, which is contributing \$1.5 million, and council, which is putting in funding as well. I am really pleased with the progress. We have had early meetings to put together a project team. From looking at the scope of the project I know that it is hugely appreciated by the athletics clubs in the area.