




Speech By
Lance McCallum

MEMBER FOR BUNDAMBA

Record of Proceedings, 16 September 2021

PRIVATE MEMBERS' STATEMENT

Bundamba Electorate

 **Mr McCALLUM** (Bundamba—ALP) (2.09 pm): This week I joined students at Bellbird Park State Secondary College for the induction of their first ever senior school captains. The school opened in 2017 and in 2022 will make history as it welcomes its first cohort of year 12s led by Benny and Fia. Next year will also signal the opening of three new buildings as part of our near \$17 million investment in new facilities and improved infrastructure. These buildings will support learning across areas of the curriculum like junior technology and food studies. A three-storey learning centre will feature 12 learning spaces and three collaborative spaces, and the project will also offer new staff facilities and multipurpose courts.

Our ongoing investment in world-class education means one day students from Bellbird Park State Secondary College could be working at our local TAE aerospace where I recently had the pleasure of catching up with Andrew and the team. At TAE's state-of-the-art \$60 million facility in Bundamba, over 200 highly skilled workers specialise in the servicing and sustainment of defence and commercial aircraft and vehicles. It is the first location outside of the US capable of repairing and maintaining the F135 jet engine and also carries out work on our F/A-18 Super Hornets with No. 1 Squadron just down the road at RAAF Base Amberley.

While our planes are in the air thanks to workers at TAE, our essential passenger rail line remains off the tracks at the hands of the Morrison government. Only federal Labor has committed \$2 million to the next steps in building our vital rail link between Ipswich and Springfield, via the booming Ripley Valley. In addition to this \$2 million, the Palaszczuk government has committed \$1 million and Ipswich City Council has pledged a further \$500,000. But the Morrison government remains silent, once again turning its back on the fastest growing city in Queensland. They duded Ipswich and the rest of our great state in the budget and nothing has changed.

I conclude today with some sad news for our local community. In the early hours of Tuesday morning, our iconic Goodna Street Life Op Shop on Queen Street was destroyed by fire. Thankfully everyone was safe and accounted for. I would like to acknowledge the wonderful work of our police and firefighters. Helen, Steve and the rest of the team at Goodna Street Life support those most in need and now it is time for us to support them. Donations are being accepted online. You can find more on the Goodna Street Life Facebook page, along with my own. The group's strength, resilience and determination continue to shine through and they plan to reopen the op shop in a new location as soon as they can.