




Speech By
Hon. Dr Steven Miles
MEMBER FOR MURRUMBA

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MINISTERIAL STATEMENT

Moreton Bay Leaders Forum

 **Hon. SJ MILES** (Murrumba—ALP) (Deputy Premier and Minister for State Development, Infrastructure, Local Government and Planning) (9.38 am): There is no greater place to live, work and raise a family than Queensland. One of the best places in Queensland is the Moreton Bay region, although I admit I might be biased.

As someone who grew up in Petrie and now raising my family in Mango Hill, I can tell you the area has changed a lot and continues to grow rapidly. That is why last week's Moreton Bay leaders forum was so important. For the first time in the Moreton Bay region's history, elected members from all three levels of government joined together and put party politics aside to address the issues the region is facing. The federal member for Dickson and I even put our very substantial differences aside to talk about the region.

On behalf of the government members, the health minister, the police minister, the Assistant Minister for Local Government, the member for Kurwongbah and the member for Pumicestone, I would like to thank Mayor Peter Flannery for organising the summit.

We championed fast-tracking the \$68.5 million Youngs Crossing Road upgrade, and the Moreton Connector and Western Arterial Road. We discussed establishing a \$125 million knowledge and innovation centre at The Mill and the future of the USC campus there, the new growth areas of Caboolture West and North Harbour, and backing the Dolphins' NRL licence bid for the Moreton Bay region—all projects focused on future proofing the region. As representatives of Moreton Bay we might disagree sometimes, but I know we all love the region and want to see it develop.

The Palaszczuk government is investing funds to progress planning for an intersection upgrade at Youngs Crossing Road and Dayboro Road. All leaders remain committed to progressing the region's key arterial road networks and integrated upgrades to the Bruce Highway and Gateway Motorway, including the Moreton Connector. We agreed that a \$125 million knowledge and innovation centre was crucial to the region's long-term education, jobs, innovation and investment. Finally, we put on our Dolphins caps to support the Dolphins bid to become our very own Moreton Bay based NRL team. With a great team behind them at the Redcliffe Dolphins and their own fantastic boutique stadium, I know everyone in the region is looking forward to barracking for the Dolphins.

Almost half a million Queenslanders call Moreton Bay home, and it continues to grow rapidly. It is critical that all three levels of government work together to make sure locals have the jobs, homes and infrastructure they need.