




Speech By
Hon. Dr Steven Miles
MEMBER FOR MURRUMBA

Record of Proceedings, 2 December 2021

MINISTERIAL STATEMENT

Planning and Infrastructure; Priority Growth Areas

 **Hon. SJ MILES** (Murrumba—ALP) (Deputy Premier, Minister for State Development, Infrastructure, Local Government and Planning and Minister Assisting the Premier on Olympics Infrastructure) (9.47 am): The Palaszczuk government recognises the importance of great town planning for Queensland's future. Our strong health response and economic recovery have seen people flocking to Queensland. The entire state is undergoing a population boom that is likely to gain momentum as we head towards the 2032 Olympic and Paralympic Games.

Earlier this year we responded to these pressures by creating the Growth Areas Team. The Growth Areas Team has been established to address the challenges of growth, infrastructure delivery, housing supply and affordability. Early on, the government's Growth Areas Team, working in partnership with the Moreton Bay Regional Council, identified Caboolture West as the first priority growth area. Caboolture West will be the south-east's largest new greenfield area, where approximately 30,000 houses will be built for around 70,000 people—in other words, growth that is comparable to the current population of the city of Mackay.

That is why I announced last week that the Palaszczuk government will make legislative amendments to better coordinate land use planning and infrastructure delivery in new priority growth areas across South-East Queensland. This new bill, focusing on changes to the Planning Act, will enable the state, working in partnership with councils, to strategically identify and coordinate the planning for land use and the multiple types of infrastructure required in priority growth areas.

The Growth Areas Team has been working with councils and industry to identify further candidate sites. I expect to be able to announce more in the new year. The new processes around priority growth areas will also include looking at the trigger points for delivery of new infrastructure or upgrades to existing infrastructure. For Caboolture West, we are working in close collaboration with the council, utility providers, key industry groups and infrastructure delivery agencies.

I can advise that the government will be progressing an amendment to the Planning Regulation in early 2022 to give statutory effect to this interim structure plan for Caboolture West. This will give a robust and fit-for-purpose pathway to quickly lock in structure plans for new growth areas. This will ensure the best land use planning and infrastructure delivery in our priority growth areas with both the state and local governments working together for the best outcomes for future residents.