




Speech By
David Crisafulli

MEMBER FOR BROADWATER

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ADJOURNMENT

Northern Gold Coast, Infrastructure

 **Mr CRISAFULLI** (Broadwater—LNP) (Leader of the Opposition) (8.30 pm): In my contribution tonight I want to talk about infrastructure and the need for it on the northern Gold Coast and, indeed, in my electorate of Broadwater. We are increasingly seeing the pressures that come with a growing community where there has not been good planning and infrastructure delivery.

Earlier today I spoke about the need for better schools and for better policing facilities. Tonight I want to talk about hard infrastructure. I want to start with the bridge over to Jabiru Island. I have spoken about this in this place before. I again want to place on record the fact that there is still no detailed planning or costing for a major duplication of that bridge. Lorraine Gray, a long-term resident, posted on the Hope Island community page and summed it up perfectly. She said—

I wish they would just build the second bridge. Hope Island Road is now a main arterial road, yet we have to squeeze down to one lane at the bridges. Not only accidents but an awful lot of road rage at these points. I have lived on Hope Island for 35 years and have seen a phenomenal amount of change.

Residents want to know there is a plan in place to deliver that vital connection between Paradise Point and Hope Island. It must occur.

Whilst talking about infrastructure and Hope Island I want to talk about the new train station. I thank the minister for changing the name. It was going to be called the Helensvale station but the Hope Island station is far more appropriate. There are much bigger challenges that need to be addressed. One is having safe access to it. I am particularly concerned about that, and we have to work with council on that.

The big one is car parking. The member for Theodore has raised this on countless occasions. At Coomera there are over 500 parking spaces. At Helensvale there are over 800. The new Pimpama station is going to be nearly 600. It defies belief that the plan for the Hope Island station is for 179 car spaces. That is ridiculous. It simply will not function as a good performing station if there are not sufficient bays—and 179 is not sufficient.

Finally, I want to talk about the Coomera Connector, a project that is way over budget and way behind schedule but is a vital project for the northern Gold Coast. We are particularly concerned about the lack of consultation when it comes to the on and off access to that road. There has been some very strong feedback from residents particularly regarding Helensvale Road. The local councillor William Owen-Jones has made some detailed pushes about what that extra traffic would mean for council in terms of serious costings and disruption to residents. We just want to know that the government is prepared to listen to those residents and to look at every option to ameliorate any concerns.

I come back to where I started: infrastructure matters. People love their lifestyle. They want to see growth but it has to be on their terms. It cannot compromise their lifestyle.