



Speech By  
**Jessica Pugh**


**MEMBER FOR MOUNT OMMANEY**

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Record of Proceedings, 13 October 2022

**ADJOURNMENT**

**Darra, Green Space**

 **Ms PUGH** (Mount Ommaney—ALP) (7.29 pm): I am delighted to have the opportunity to rise in the House tonight and speak about something our local community is incredibly proud of, and that is the new allocation of green space for Darra. For the benefit of the House I will provide a little bit of background. In my first term, I worked with locals on the maintenance of a significant piece of land at the back of Darra. The land was owned by the Department of Transport and Main Roads. It was purchased some time ago for major road upgrades that have now taken place, so the department no longer needed the land. That is about 4.88 hectares of potential space available for our community.

A number of locals suggested that Transport and Main Roads, if they no longer had use for the land, could turn the land into green space so that the entire community can benefit from it. I thought this was a fantastic idea, so for the last few years I have worked with Minister Bailey—and I thank him for his help on this—to create a plan to transition this surplus land from Transport and Main Roads into the hands of the city council and create proper, certified community green space. I am excited to share that a 4.88-hectare parcel of land on Warrender Street in Darra will be gifted from the state government to Brisbane City Council for community use.

**Mr Hunt:** A good outcome!

**Ms PUGH:** I will take that interjection from the honourable member. It is a great outcome for the community. It is a significant increase to the green space footprint in my community and certainly in the community of Darra. I look forward to working with Brisbane City Council on ensuring this space is of maximum benefit to our community.

This is a community win that has come about because of the hard work of Darra locals like the Darra Community Group. I thank vice president Kurt for meeting with me on site earlier this year so I could talk him through the proposal properly and the wonderful committee he has around him who continue to activate the Darra community around spaces like this one. The good news for Darra does not stop there.

**Mr Hunt:** You're kidding! Surely not!

**Ms PUGH:** I know! It gets better. But wait, there's more! Our beautiful Darra State School will also benefit from over \$10 million worth of new classrooms, including music rooms and plenty of room for this small but growing school. I say a special thank you to the Darra P&C, and in particular their president, Lisa, who has been at the helm for a number of years now, for creating a beautiful environment for our students to learn and thrive.

I thank the committee members, both past and present, for their continued advocacy around many issues in Darra over many years. They are the beating heart of our beautiful community and I want to put that on the record here tonight.