




Speech By
Mark Robinson

MEMBER FOR OODGEROO

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ADJOURNMENT

North Stradbroke Island, Dunwich Harbour

 **Dr ROBINSON** (Oodgeroo—LNP) (7.00 pm): For many years I have advocated for funding to revitalise Dunwich Harbour, the gateway to North Stradbroke Island. This kind of infrastructure investment has been sorely needed for community growth and to boost the flagging local economy, create new jobs and provide amenity. Sadly, until recently my calls for this upgrade have fallen on deaf ears despite the state government's \$30 million ETS program and despite it being the No. 1 priority project of the Chamber of Commerce, local businesses, tourism operators and many locals. It took the leadership of Prime Minister Scott Morrison, along with the advocacy of mayor Karen Williams and myself, to finally move the state government to come to the table.

The Prime Minister's announcement of a \$41 million upgrade to Dunwich Harbour as part of the SEQ City Deal has been widely welcomed. The upgrade includes the construction of new pontoons, shelters, parking, retail shops, other amenities, landscape upgrades and more. It is also great to have the support of Henry Pike, LNP candidate for Bowman, for this project going forward. He is already working hard for the people of Straddie, the bay islands and Redlands coast, supporting this project and many others. I wish Henry well on 21 May and look forward to his long service in our community as the federal member and part of the Morrison government's next term.

I also wish to put on record and thank the retiring Andrew Laming, who has supported and achieved much in his long service as the federal member for Bowman. Sadly, in contrast to the LNP's support of the Dunwich Harbour upgrade, the Labor member for Capalaba has attacked the SEQ City Deal, calling it a dud even though his own Premier supported it. Labor is all over the shop in the Redlands, and that is why we do not need more there. It is also very important that the Harold Walker Jetty be fully restored in the Dunwich Harbour area. Simon Walker has led the charge to restore the jetty named in honour of his father. The local community wants it fully restored and fast-tracked, but the \$750,000 will not be enough and I call on the government to do more.

Sadly, the island has suffered under the failed 'Tradbrooke Island' plan of Jackie Trad and businesses such as the Stradbroke newsagency at Dunwich, which has operated since the 1980s, have closed. Hopefully, better policy and better targeted investment in the future like the Dunwich Harbour upgrade will revitalise North Stradbroke Island.