




Speech By
Nikki Boyd

MEMBER FOR PINE RIVERS

Record of Proceedings, 16 March 2022

MOTION

Queensland Floods

 **Ms BOYD** (Pine Rivers—ALP) (3.02 pm): At 3 pm on Friday, 25 February an emergency alert was issued throughout the Moreton Bay region for intense rainfall and flash flooding. By that stage, roads and bridges were already starting to be impacted, and residents could see that the event was seemingly unrelenting. My community was already feeling the effects of the intense inundation of rainfall. The event saw close to two metres of rain fall at Mount Glorious, with 1,170 millimetres of that coming down in the first 48 hours. That rainfall from Mount Glorious was quickly transferred into Kobbie Creek and Laceys Creek to the north and into the North Pine River and dam and into the South Pine River catchment to the south. Mount Mee also had approximately 700 millimetres of rain that fell at this time. The low points through Dayboro and surrounds became a basin of sorts as the combined impact of riverine flooding mixed with flash flooding from the volume of water continuing to inundate our community through rainfall.

By the Saturday morning we awoke to scenes of flooding through Dayboro. Hundreds of families were cut off, including families at Laceys Creek that remained isolated for many days. Businesses and properties were submerged and there was no end in sight for this event as it hovered unrelentingly, continuing to dump masses of water from above. Long-term residents in Dayboro have credited the dam releases at North Pine for the ability for water to move downstream, vacating the town, which allowed much of their clean-up to happen in the early parts of the new week. Throughout Sunday our suburban community suffered road closures of a magnitude not seen in many years. Along the North Pine River we saw Youngs Crossing and AJ Wyllie Bridge at Lawnton closed by Saturday. The already inundated Gympie Road at the Bald Hills Flats that was restricted only to the high road saw that then submerged, and significant damage occurred as it went underwater. Still, weeks later, Brisbane City Council is working to reopen Mount Nebo Road on The Gap side which is closed due to significant land slips.

There was a moment in time when two consecutive systems hit our community on Sunday, 27 February which saw the impact intensify further. The South Pine River system saw flooding intensify through Highvale and through the Samford Valley, together with the submersion of businesses through Main Street in Samford Village. As these systems continued with their deluge, homes were submerged in low-lying areas of Strathpine and Bray Park. March greeted us before we really got to appreciate the breadth of the damage in many of these locations. I joined the mayor, deputy mayor and local councillor on 1 March to meet with locals. Amongst them were Margaret and Gary, who had lived in their Bray Park home for 43 years and had never seen it flood before.

Of course, there was an enormous and varied impact on the community of sporting clubs—the lifeblood of our community—in every corner of my electorate. The Samford Bowls Club, for instance, saw water rage not from the river beside it but down the hill, submerging its playing greens with such ferocity that it upended concrete benches and flooded its facility. Our small business minister, Minister

Farmer, came with me on Wednesday to connect with small businesses as we worked through what package of support would be best suited and tailored to the needs of businesses. I thank 3D Logistics, the Long Yard Larder and also Little Tree Bake and Brewhouse for their time and input into the process as we rebuild.

I place on record the admiration and thanks of our community to our Queensland Fire and Emergency Services personnel, our Queensland Police Service, our SES, our phenomenal rural fire brigades and the remarkable volunteers who kept information up to date and community needs attended to. I particularly single out Alison Taylor and the team at the Dayboro District Community Management Team; our Moreton Bay Regional Council team, particularly Councillor Constance, Councillor Grimwade and Councillor Gillam, for their constant communication; the roads crew who built back our roads so quickly; and every person who got out there to help neighbours and friends when they were in need, demonstrating the beauty of the Queensland spirit and the strength, power and resilience of our community. I also put on record and pass along my condolences and those of my community to those who lost their lives and our sorrow for those who have lost their livelihoods and homes through this event. Finally, I thank our phenomenal Premier, a stoic and strong leader who provided the steady, calm direction that Queenslanders value. I support the motion wholeheartedly.