




Speech By
Shane King

MEMBER FOR KURWONGBAH

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ADJOURNMENT

Federal Election; Dakabin Railway Station

 **Mr KING** (Kurwongbah—ALP) (7.16 pm): I rise tonight with both hope and sadness after last weekend's federal election: sadness because two of my good friends—Ali France in Dickson and Rebecca Fanning in Longman—are unlikely to be representing my constituents in the federal parliament, but I am hopeful for the future under an Albanese Labor government, hopeful for better housing outcomes, better health outcomes and better job outcomes. Finally we have a government that will back us here in Queensland on health, training, renewables and job creation. It is what Australia needs and we thankfully now have.

I want to congratulate both federal members who serve my Kurwongbah electorate constituents in their capacity as the members for the Dickson and Longman federal electorates on their likely re-election. While I am obviously 'team red' and would have loved to see our local members form part of a federal Labor government, I know that my constituents hold a high benchmark for their representatives. I will always give credit where it is due, and I will always try to work productively where I can with both of these guys to achieve the best possible outcomes for our shared communities.

Dakabin station is finally being opened. I have not spoken about it for quite some time, so I thought I might take a minute. Before the member for Thuringowa's Riverway Drive there was Dakabin station. Dakabin station was basically a rail siding that serviced the quickly growing Dakabin and Kurwongbah communities. There was very little shelter, no toilets, no disability or pram access across the track, and very little car parking. When I was elected in 2015 as the member for Kallangur I heard loudly that this was unacceptable. As the new peninsula rail line was being finished there appeared to be very little appetite from Queensland Rail to upgrade the station, so my lobbying work started. We pushed very hard and finally got the funding in 2017, from memory, and the planning and work began. It has taken a long time as the supply of utilities, construction during COVID and bad weather have plagued the job, but we are finally there.

I would like to thank past transport ministers for their help; Minister Hinchliffe for the planning study; former minister Trad, who secured the funding; Minister Bailey, who oversaw the project and put up with my niggling about what was not right and what was; and my neighbour and Deputy Premier Steven Miles, who came on board and helped to also secure a magnificent car parking facility for the station. I will have the pleasure of opening the station with the minister soon. Minister Miles' advocacy to enhance what has been a difficult project cannot be understated.

A large degree of thanks and admiration must go to the community and Gemma Gale and the Dakabin Station Action Group for their support, tenacity and hard work. When you have a group like Gemma's behind you, you certainly know you have your ducks in a row. It is not over yet as we still need more parking on the Narangba Road side of the station, but we are working on that. The Palaszczuk government has delivered again for my community and we could not be happier.