



Speech By  
**Shane Knuth**


**MEMBER FOR HILL**

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## ADJOURNMENT

### Hill Electorate, Projects

 **Mr KNUTH** (Hill—KAP) (6.19 pm): I would like to raise a number of projects in my electorate that I have previously raised. Unfortunately, I will not be able to cover everything in the short amount of time that I have. I would like to acknowledge the Minister for Racing and thank her for funding for three race clubs in my electorate: Innisfail, Atherton and Mount Garnet. I have contacted the committee and they are stoked. We are very appreciative of that.

Castor Park at Mourilyan is the central sporting hub in the region used for junior and senior soccer, Little Athletics and various schools. The area around and in the grounds has become a major safety issue, with lack of car parking and lighting to meet the increased demand. Two applications were submitted to the Resources Community Infrastructure Fund seeking \$705,000 to upgrade the facility; however, both were unsuccessful. The state government has stated publicly that regional Queensland would not miss out ahead of the 2032 Olympics. This is a perfect opportunity to put this commitment into action.

While on sporting infrastructure, Innisfail Bowls Club will turn 100 next year. This is an iconic club overlooking the Innisfail Johnstone River. Some significant work was recently completed to stop this incredible piece of history from collapsing into the river. However, in a region where the heat and humidity are significant, the bowls club still needs a shade cover over the green to protect many users from the extreme heat and dangerous sun.

The community in Kurrimine Beach has been calling for a safe access boat ramp for decades. After several meetings with TMR, community leaders, local council and the minister we are almost over the line with the final funding needed to begin construction on this valuable piece of infrastructure for the entire Far North.

The Innisfail-Japoon-Silkwood road is a major regional connector, transporting farm machinery, refrigerated trucks, caravans, local traffic and also school buses, which leads to Queensland's No. 1 tourist attraction, Paronella Park. While I acknowledge some effort has been put towards fixing sections of this road, it is nowhere near an acceptable standard.

There has been some great work on the Palmerston Highway, however, it is now time to fix that bad section between Henrietta and Goolagin creeks and the bus drop-off at Stoters Hill. Significant works have been underway on the Atherton to Mareeba road, however, the work has not catered for overtaking lanes which is a priority to reduce safety risks and congestion along this well-travelled main route. I also raised last sitting week the need to widen and fully seal the Upper Barron Road, Ootan Road and Herberton to Irvinebank roads. I call on the government to fund these priority projects which will bring great benefits to the region.

