




Speech By
Hon. Dr Steven Miles

MEMBER FOR MURRUMBA

Record of Proceedings, 16 March 2022

MOTION

Queensland Floods

 **Hon. SJ MILES** (Murrumba—ALP) (Deputy Premier, Minister for State Development, Infrastructure, Local Government and Planning and Minister Assisting the Premier on Olympics Infrastructure) (11.28 am): I rise to address the motion moved by the Premier regarding the catastrophic floods that have recently affected the Fraser Coast, Wide Bay and South-East Queensland regions. In my ministerial duties I have had ample opportunity to address the flood impacts across the region, so in addressing this motion I would like to speak to the impact of the rainfall and flood on my community of Murrumba. This flood was different to the one in 2011. It impacted the Moreton Bay region more than the one in 2011 did. The Suncorp Insurance data I mentioned earlier today indicated nearby suburbs like Caboolture, Deagon, Everton Park and Aspley were amongst the hardest hit in terms of property damage.

We saw levels of rainfall that have never been seen before. At Murrumba Downs, 1,145 millimetres of rain fell; at Kippa-Ring 1,076 millimetres; at Rothwell 1,076 millimetres; at Young's Crossing 1,104 millimetres; and at Lake Kurwongbah 1,050 millimetres. All of this rain fell on an already sodden catchment. The North Pine Dam had been spilling for 13 days, releasing millions of litres of water into the Pine River, which is the southern boundary of Murrumba and separates Moreton Bay from the Brisbane City Council area. All of that water led to localised flooding across Dakabin, Murrumba Downs, Kallangur, Griffin and Rothwell. Roads were closed, power went out and properties were isolated and damaged. The beautiful playground at Pine Rivers Kindergarten was damaged and will need to be replaced.

I have travelled the entire region affected by this disaster, and the damage in Deception Bay, in the neighbouring electorate of Bancroft, was amongst the worst. The member for Bancroft urged me to visit Major Street. Residents were still in shock, working together to strip their homes while toddlers showed me what was left of their bedrooms. Through all the grief, the famous Queensland community spirit was on display. Pastor Dan Sweetman and chaplain Nathan Grady from Lifepoint Church Rothwell were delivering a car boot load of Domino's pizzas. My heart goes out to the residents of Mary Street East and West, Mango Hill; Chermside Road, Mango Hill; Ceccato Street, Murrumba Downs; Roseann Street, Kallangur; and Alma Road, Dakabin. There was even a landslip at Moss Glen Close, Murrumba Downs.

Now that the clean-up is done and the rebuild has started, I look forward to working with the community; neighbouring Moreton Bay MPs the members for Redcliffe, Bancroft, Morayfield, Pine Rivers and Kurwongbah; Mayor Flannery and the Moreton Bay regional councillors to ensure we rebuild with the disasters of the future in mind. I want to thank all of our many local heroes. Sandra and Danielle Harvey of Alana Street, Murrumba Downs took in neighbours Deb and Anthony Kenneth and their two children after sewage came through their home. I thank the mayor and local councillors who I have already mentioned, particularly Mayor Peter Flannery, Deputy Mayor Jodie Shipway and Councillor Sandra Ruck. On this side of the House, we stand with Queenslanders who have been affected by the worst natural disaster in more than 10 years.