




Speech By
Brent Mickelberg

MEMBER FOR BUDERIM

Record of Proceedings, 23 August 2023

ADJOURNMENT

Buderim Electorate, Noise Abatement; Disability Assistance Animals

 **Mr MICKELBERG** (Buderim—LNP) (7.00 pm): Residents in my electorate have had enough. Residents in Sippy Downs, Tanawha and Mountain Creek have all had enough. They have had enough suffering under constant droning road noise at their back fence emanating from the Bruce Highway and the Sunshine Motorway. Residents have had enough of government inaction, bureaucratic processes and excuses.

In each of those suburbs the Department of Transport and Main Roads has undertaken noise monitoring. In Tanawha noise monitoring was completed in May 2019 and February 2021. In both instances the 10-year horizon prediction was 69 decibels, which exceeds the departmental threshold of 68 decibels at which point noise attenuation measures should be implemented—a threshold, I might add, that I think is too high. Despite exceeding those measures, there will be no noise attenuation barrier built under this Palaszczuk Labor government.

My constituents have told me of young children waking up at all hours because of constant road noise and of exhaust brakes at 3 am. Steven told me that his Sunday morning front porch coffee is now just about loud road noise and he has given up. Residents cannot have their neighbours over for a barbecue. They cannot leave their windows open to cool their house on a warm Sunshine Coast evening. Allison and Terry tell me that since the vegetation along the Bruce Highway was cleared, the increasing noise has been ‘horrendous’ and that it has had a huge impact on their mental health. Steven, Allison, Terry and their neighbours should not have to suffer because the state government will not listen to their concerns and because it will not build the noise attenuation barriers that would ease their burden.

After years of being ignored by the state government, Tanawha residents asked me to present a petition highlighting their concerns in relation to the removal of vegetation, the increase in highway noise as a result of the vegetation removal, and the lack of noise and safety barriers on the Bruce Highway, the Ilkley overpass and the Sunshine Motorway. I table a petition highlighting their concerns and I ask that the Minister for Transport and Main Roads respond to their concerns.

Tabled paper: Nonconforming petition regarding concerned residents of Tanawha about Department of Transport and Main Roads [1184](#).

If the state government will not listen to the concerns of Tanawha residents, Sippy Downs residents and Mountain Creek residents and build adequate noise attenuation measures to reduce the impact of road noise, then I will make sure that a future LNP government does.

In the time I have remaining I would like to address the issue of disability assistance animals and the importance of facilitating access for all members of our society. Unfortunately, many Queenslanders who rely on an assistance animal consistently face barriers and discrimination that limits their ability to take advantage of the services that most Queenslanders take for granted.

Today Palmview resident Mr Scott Dwyer and I met with the deputy director-general, tourism to raise the need for more work to be done to support those members of our community who utilise assistance animals when visiting tourism destinations. Scott is an advocate who has travelled extensively with his assistance dog and he shares his experiences to better educate the community and to drive better outcomes for those who rely on assistance animals. I would like to thank the deputy director-general for taking the time to listen and for his offer to work collaboratively with Scott to leverage his lived experience, particularly given that this year is the Year of Accessible Tourism.