




Speech By
Christopher Whiting

MEMBER FOR BANCROFT

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ADJOURNMENT

Moreton Bay Central Fire and Rescue Station

 **Mr WHITING** (Bancroft—ALP) (7.10 pm): I am overjoyed to inform the House that the new Moreton Bay Central Fire and Rescue Station is nearly ready to go live. This is a great achievement for our area. The brand new 24/7 station will cover Deception Bay, North Lakes, Mango Hill and Narangba. I have visited the finished building and the fit-out is nearly complete. I saw the last of the IT—the phone systems and the servers—being installed just the other day. The crew have been selected and are ready to go. A permanent crew of 16 will work 24/7 in shifts of four.

What will distinguish this station is that they will have an auxiliary fire and rescue crew of 14. It will be the new home of the Deception Bay auxiliary fire brigade. That volunteer force has protected the bay for many generations. The siren would go off and the volunteers would race to the station, hop in their appliances and off they would go. Now they have a new home from which to continue their work.

The station has eight bays to house appliances that will fight most urban and rural fires. There is a road crash rescue training pad where they practise cutting cars open to rescue people. There is a training room and eight dormitory rooms. It looks fantastic. It is so good to see that facility come out of the ground. It will be fully operational within weeks. The station will provide a higher level of community protection and safety, all brought to them by the state Labor government.

The station is only one example of the infrastructure that is being delivered in Moreton Bay by this government. I will mention a few of the other projects: the widening of Beachmere Road, the new Morayfield Ambulance Station, and in Caboolture the new Moreton Bay district police headquarters is finished. There are massive upgrades to the Caboolture Hospital, which will have over 1,500 parking spaces. The Redcliffe Hospital expansion is a \$1 billion build. Of course, the new satellite hospital at Caboolture is doing great work and new ones will open soon at Bribie Island and Kallangur.

There are also the highway upgrades, the 'Moreton connector' and the widening of the Gateway Motorway. That is a \$2.1 billion project that we have started planning for. The Deception Bay Road overpass and the Boundary Road overpass were planned, designed and built by the state government with 80-20 federal-state funding. The local LNP keep saying they delivered it, but it was years of hard work by the state government and local construction companies that planned, designed, built and delivered it. There is more: dual lanes—

(Time expired)