



Speech By  
**David Crisafulli**


**MEMBER FOR BROADWATER**

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Record of Proceedings, 23 May 2023

**ADJOURNMENT**

**Coomera Connector**

 **Mr CRISAFULLI** (Broadwater—LNP) (Leader of the Opposition) (7.00 pm): The Coomera Connector is a vital piece of infrastructure for the northern Gold Coast and the Broadwater community I represent. Sadly, it was supposed to start in 2021. It is now \$600 million over budget and it was to be six lanes but is now four. We are getting less for more and it is taking longer to deliver.

Right now there is another issue, though, for the residents that I represent and that is their real concerns about the construction and the impacts on their dwelling during construction. Residents do not trust Minister Bailey when it comes to listening to their concerns. They have seen his inability to listen and reflect and be able to do the right thing by communities. I want to quote Gayle who says, 'We are concerned that, like exit 49, the Pimpama roadworks noise barriers have still not been installed and we will experience the same if we do not act now.'

Noise barriers is something that the member for Theodore has taken up the fight on time and time again. It is time the government listens. This is serious. People have built their homes, they have invested, it is their way of life—it matters. They deserve the right to know that the government is listening so that they do not have to listen to traffic noise and have their amenities spoiled. Work has finally begun. Trees have been removed and residents are reporting to me that noise and dust is reaching levels the likes of which they are very uncomfortable with.

Three things could happen which would prove that the government is listening to the residents of the suburbs that both the member for Theodore and myself represent, starting with the beautiful area in Monterey Keys. One: the builder must step up dust mitigation measures like water spraying, sweeping and covering soil stockpiles. Two: residents in places like Monterey Keys are asking that noise barriers be installed now to stop construction noise and enable dust suppression. I will quote from Rachel when she says, 'We love where we live, and to have to come home to the dust, the noise, the destruction is heartbreaking. Please, can this be made a priority?' Three: the final design must be world-class; it must be large, it must be thick and it must be done in a way that improves the amenity and ensures that these residents do not have to live with the nightmare on their back fence.

We all want this Coomera Connector. It would have been great if it was on time and on budget, but right now these residents justifiably want to know that their investment and their way of life is protected, and it is important that the minister starts listening to them.