




Speech By
Jim Madden

MEMBER FOR IPSWICH WEST

Record of Proceedings, 12 October 2023

PRIVATE MEMBER'S STATEMENT

Ipswich West Electorate, School Infrastructure

 **Mr MADDEN** (Ipswich West—ALP) (2.09 pm): I rise to outline the incredible state school infrastructure program currently being delivered in my electorate of Ipswich West. It began with the replacement of utility blocks at Haigslea, Mount Marrow, Marburg and Ashwell state schools. Utility blocks are prefabricated and contain male and female toilets, showers and even laundries. In most cases, there are also associated enhancement programs that include landscaping, construction of shaded walkways and verandahs—all disability friendly. At Ipswich State High School in Brassall, a \$30.9 million, 10-learning-space building program contract was awarded to Badge Pty Ltd. Work began in 2022 and is expected to be completed in November 2024.

At Ipswich State High School, Novar Group recently completed a \$1.1 million contract to refurbish C block, while planning has begun on a new \$18.5 million school hall, expected to be completed by June 2026. These are just the most recent items in a production line of building programs at Ipswich State High School since I was first elected in 2015. We have seen the delivery of a new performing arts centre; classrooms for students with a disability; a synthetic soccer pitch; and facilities for young mothers that allow them to bring their children to school with them.

The state government's state school infrastructure program has been equally amazing in the west of my electorate. At Rosewood State High School, work has begun on a \$10.6 million building—delivered by Hutchinson Builders—to be completed in June 2024. This project will include a six-classroom learning space, upgrades to the existing school bus bays and construction of a new car-parking area. Hutchinson Builders are also the contractors on a building program at nearby Walloon State School. The \$5.2 million contract will deliver additional classrooms, while a \$300,000 contract will deliver a school infrastructure enhancement program.

Funding has also been provided to a number of state schools in my electorate. This includes air conditioning for all of my state schools. At Ipswich North State School, \$300,000 was provided to refurbish block B learning spaces, and \$250,000 was provided to resurface playing courts and the outdoor learning area. At Karalee State School, \$200,000 was provided for a more efficient and larger septic system, while at Tivoli State School, \$350,000 has been provided to upgrade B block. I would like to thank Minister Grace Grace for her hard work in fighting for funding for this amazing state school infrastructure program that will greatly benefit the students and staff at Ipswich West state schools.