




Speech By
Andrew Powell

MEMBER FOR GLASS HOUSE

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MOTION

Housing

 **Mr POWELL** (Glass House—LNP) (6.53 pm): I associate myself with the comments made by the Leader of the Opposition as to why we are having this debate here this evening: the presentation by the Premier at the Media Club absolutely fizzled so the housing minister is trying to resurrect it for him. Let me give members one other reason we are having this debate tonight, and I foreshadowed it yesterday in the debate of the business program motion. That is, this government does not want to debate the integrity bill. Under normal conditions that bill would have got at best three hours debate tomorrow. By taking another 50 minutes out tonight, we are going to be lucky if there is two hours worth of debate on the integrity bill before it is guillotined tomorrow.

What aspect of this debate tonight is going to change anything for those people living in tents on Tomlinson Road at Caboolture that you can see as you drive along the D'Aguilar Highway, the boundary between the electorates of Pumicestone and Morayfield? How will it do anything for them or the people in my electorate living in tents with their kids in Cruice Park? I heard someone in the housing sector say that all of the announcements we are getting from the government are about the 'wow' and not about the now. All of the announcements, the figures, the numbers, the plans, all projected 22 years into the future, delivering more houses than this government can deliver—their track record shows that they can only deliver 200 a year; they are not going to deliver 2,000 a year—are all about the 'wow' and not about the now.

Where is the advocacy from the member for Pumicestone for those people in her electorate and mine who will have their houses bulldozed in the middle of a housing crisis and who are going to have a 120-metre highway cut right through the existing urban footprint and future growth corridor? How many more houses could be built if that highway was not on the route proposed by Transport and Main Roads?

The people of Queensland are wise to this government. They know that they are bereft of ideas and that all they have are announcements, because they cannot deliver. They are not resolving the problem now for those living on our streets. I want to reflect on the words of the member for Theodore, who asked how this is going to help those people living on the street outside the hotel we are all put up at. This debate will not resolve that. This is nothing more than a sham. It is a stalling tactic because they have no real plan and they do not want to debate the integrity bill.