




Speech By
Don Brown

MEMBER FOR CAPALABA

Record of Proceedings, 21 March 2024

ADJOURNMENT

Redland City Council, Election; Young, Ms R

 **Mr BROWN** (Capalaba—ALP) (6.21 pm): I am happy to report after last weekend's council elections that we have a new mayor in the Redlands. I would like to congratulate Jos Mitchell on her whopping victory. I remember all those members during the last sitting week saying, 'Laming's coming for you.' He got 25 per cent, less than half the vote of Jos Mitchell. He got absolutely trounced. Why was that? It was because he ran one of the most grubby campaigns I have ever seen in my political lifetime. It was so bad that the ECQ had to put on security officers at the booths and said it was the worst council area in the whole of Queensland. That is what Laming brings to the campaign. I am just glad Redlanders saw through that and elected a responsible and transparent mayor.

The new mayor also had to take Laming to court because of his lies. She had to get an injunction about his Greens lies. First he lied and said she was a teal and then he realised that teals get votes. Then he said the issue was Labor and then he realised Labor gets a lot of votes. Finally, he said she was a Green, and costs were awarded against him in court. It cost him \$20,000 to get that lie out of the campaign. Local LNP identities out there said nothing; they let him get away with it. The member for Oodgeroo, Rebecca Young and Amanda Stoker said nothing as Laming bullied this poor woman during the campaign.

We got rid of one drink-driving LNP mayor, but it looks like we have a new LNP politician who is breaking road rules, and that is Rebecca Young, the LNP state candidate for Redlands. She has admitted on a Facebook post—and I will table this in a moment—to driving while handling her mobile phone regularly. Studies have shown that driving while distracted by a mobile phone is equal to having a blood alcohol level of .07 to .107. It is equivalent to drink driving, and she has admitted to this. The post came up because a school bus driver said—

Imagine my surprise when kids on the school bus I drive noticed a lady playing on her phone at approx 3.40pm today at the corner of Cleveland Redlands Bay Road turning right into Bender Rd at Cleveland with your name plastered all over the car, not a very good example for young adults

She admitted to driving and touching her phone all the time. She also tried to deny this, to which the bus driver replied—

Rebecca Young ... I put my hand out when I became aware and shook my finger back and forth for you, buses are fitted with cameras if you need proof

I table that for the benefit of the House.

Tabled paper: Extract, undated, of comments on a social media account made by Mr John Meikle and Ms Rebecca Young—LNP for Redlands Shire [437](#).

Especially after we have seen drink driving from the former mayor, the Leader of the Opposition needs to take strong action against this candidate to send a strong message on road safety in Redlands. We need to ensure our roads are safe. We have had a drink-driving mayor crash her car and now we have a candidate who is distracted by her phone, which is equivalent to drink driving. It is not good enough and the LNP need to do better.

Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER (Mr Martin): Member for Capalaba, I think in your contribution you may have used unparliamentary language. I ask that you withdraw.

Mr BROWN: I withdraw.