



Speech By  
**Les Walker**


**MEMBER FOR MUNDINGBURRA**

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Record of Proceedings, 21 March 2024

**PRIVATE MEMBER'S STATEMENTS**

**Olympic and Paralympic Games, Infrastructure**

 **Mr WALKER** (Mundingburra—ALP) (2.34 pm): I rise to speak about the concerns of my constituents in the seat of Mundingburra. I have conducted mobile offices and community events in recent times in my seat and I have met with many residents and listened to their many concerns—cost of living, housing, crime and an extremely serious rise in domestic violence. They have also raised their concerns about the amount of money that was going to be spent on the Gabba redevelopment for the 2032 Olympic stadium.

I support the recent decision and leadership shown by the Premier to address the concerns of Queenslanders and the excessive cost of building a large new Olympic stadium in the heart of Brisbane for a two-week event when we have cost-of-living challenges and housing issues to address as a priority, along with juvenile crime. I am very happy that the Premier is listening and acting to reduce the cost of hosting one of the biggest events in the world. Premier Steven Miles has also shown publicly his position on his preferred site for the 2032 Olympic stadium that will leave a long-lasting legacy for all Queenslanders as well as savings being spent on more housing in Queensland.

What is of grave concern is the lack of leadership shown by the opposition leader, David Crisafulli, when it comes to informing the people of North Queensland where he stands on the preferred Olympic stadium site here in Brisbane. What we have seen in the last 48 hours is the LNP Brisbane mayor-elect Adrian Schrinner do all the bidding on behalf of opposition leader, David Crisafulli. Why, you ask? Because the council election is over. Schrinner is safe and sound for another four years. The opposition leader, David Crisafulli, must remain a very small target and not show any weakness. The opposition leader, David Crisafulli, does not want the people of Queensland to see him as a fake or lacking in leadership skills when pressure is applied to him.

Recently the opposition leader, David Crisafulli, was asked on 4BC radio by morning host Bill McDonald what his position was on the Victoria Park site for the Olympic stadium. He would not answer the question, ducking and weaving and also showing some anger for being continually asked for a response. That was a perfect example of what Queenslanders can expect from the opposition leader, David Crisafulli, if he were the premier of this state.

**Mr JANETZKI:** Madam Deputy Speaker, I rise to a point of order.

**Madam DEPUTY SPEAKER** (Ms Bush): Pause the clock. Member for Mundingburra, I ask you to take your seat while I hear the point of order.

**Mr JANETZKI:** My point of order is to do with correct titles. The member for Mundingburra has repeatedly referred to the opposition leader by name.

**Madam DEPUTY SPEAKER:** I did not hear the reference, but I caution all members to use correct titles.

**Mr KELLY:** Madam Deputy Speaker, I rise to a point of order. The member is actually referring to the 'opposition leader' and then the name. That is acceptable under the standing orders.

**Madam DEPUTY SPEAKER:** Member for Mundingburra, I will give you the call and I will get some advice. If you can resume your speech, that would be great.

**Mr WALKER:** Mayor Schrinner has conned the people of Brisbane and more so the surrounding property owners of Victoria Park. They were promised their very own Hyde Park just like New York. I table a media article dated 9 June 2019 where he promised the people of Victoria Park and surrounding areas their very own Hyde Park. Queenslanders expect weak leadership from the opposition leader.

*Tabled paper:* Article from the *Brisbane Times*, dated 9 June 2019, titled 'Golf course to make way for Brisbane's version of Hyde Park' [434](#).