




Speech By
Peter Russo
MEMBER FOR TOOHEY

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PRIVATE MEMBER'S STATEMENTS

Miles Labor Government, Achievements

 **Mr RUSSO** (Toohey—ALP) (2.58 pm): I stand today to talk about the achievements of the Miles Labor government and the vision that the Premier had in relation to the delivery of the satellite hospitals throughout Queensland. These satellite hospitals will be delivering the essential healthcare services and facilities for Queensland. The open day at the Eight Mile Plains Satellite Hospital was a resounding success. Hundreds of local residents toured the new \$65.4 million facility where they appreciated the state-of-the-art equipment in place ready to take the pressure off the emergency departments and increased health services available on the south side. The Eight Miles Plains Satellite Hospital will take the pressure off the QEII Hospital emergency department.

After some consultation with the local elders and traditional owners, the official name for the satellite hospital is now Maroo-goodji-ba. The name means place of calm, peace and tranquillity, which is very apt for this great facility. Not only will the new satellite hospital deliver high-quality healthcare services; more than 100 healthcare workers have been recruited to staff the new satellite hospital including doctors, nurses, administration officers, allied health practitioners and operational staff. This is a boost to local jobs and provides further benefit to the local area.

Anna Smith, a mother whose children play with the local Indians Baseball team, told me at the open day how she is very pleased the satellite hospital will be available to service the local community for treating non-life-threatening injuries. Anna explained that one of her daughters had a recent injury and she would have welcomed the opportunity to have the injury assessed and treated at a local satellite hospital. Anna was very impressed with the level of care that would be available for the local community and with the layout of the satellite hospital. It was clear to her that this is a facility designed to provide first-class health care to my electorate and surrounding electorates. As a mother, Anna prioritises the health of her children. She knows how valuable it is for her children to be able to have any injuries treated in a prompt and caring manner. It will not only be minor injuries that are able to be treated at the satellite hospital; there will also be a range of appointment-based specialist and outpatient services available.

(Time expired)