




Speech By
Tim Mander

MEMBER FOR EVERTON

Record of Proceedings, 22 May 2024

MOTION

Transport Infrastructure

 **Mr MANDER** (Everton—LNP) (5.50 pm): I rise to support the motion moved by my colleague the member for Chatsworth. I have to make a concession and probably show my age: every morning I like listening to ABC radio.

An opposition member interjected.

Mr MANDER: Or the wireless, yes; I take that interjection. I like listening to Craig and Loretta, who are quite entertaining. They have a mixture of light stuff, occasionally quite serious stuff and political stuff. The funniest guy on the Craig and Loretta show is Brad the Traffic Guy. Brad the Traffic Guy is incredibly entertaining. He is a New South Wales supporter. I think he is looking for a partner. There is an ongoing story about his life and he is very entertaining. However, that entertainment stops when he gives his morning traffic report.

The traffic report is so predictable. Every morning, the first thing he starts with is the traffic congestion on the north side of Brisbane. There will be a slow run going through Everton Park down to Enoggera and on Old Northern Road and South Pine Road. Gympie Road will be congested once again. People travelling on Samford Road, from the old Keperra drive-in through to the Enoggera intersection, will need to allow more time because of the congestion. Time and time again he talks about the congestion on the north side of Brisbane.

I acknowledge the contribution of the member for Clayfield. I remind members that there are only two LNP members of parliament who represent the north side of the river and they are the member for Clayfield and myself. If we talk about who is responsible for the congestion and the lack of work that has happened for 30 of the past 35 years, it is the Labor Party. I look across the chamber at the Labor Party members who represent the north side of Brisbane. They are the members for Aspley, Pine Rivers, Stafford, Ferny Grove, Kurwongbah, Bancroft, Morayfield, Murrumba, Redcliffe, Nudgee and McConnel. The scary thing is that eight of them are ministers. Eight ministers live on the north side of Brisbane but have done nothing to ease the congestion that we have to put up with every day.

One thing that people always bring up is that they are sick of being stuck in traffic, whether it is outside my office at the intersection of South Pine Road and Stafford Road or on the link road, which cost \$30-odd million and gave us about 15 seconds extra of traffic light green time. The project has been a total and utter waste of money without an upgrade of the intersection outside my office where, by the way, there is also a very good billboard that promotes my office. How many times have we heard about upgrades to Youngs Crossing Road? The Linkfield Road overpass is hit by a truck every six months, which puts it out of action. What of the upgrade to the Beams Road rail overpass?

Who do they blame for the delays that have happened following promise after promise? They used to blame the federal government, but who is running the show down there now? It is Albo! Now we do not hear a single peep from these guys. They should get on the phone to Albo and get these jobs done.

Mr Hinchliffe interjected.

Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER (Mr Kelly): Order, member for Sandgate!

Mr MANDER: The member for Sandgate summed up best the way these guys operate. They whinge and whine about everybody else. It is the Brisbane City Council or it is the federal government—unless we have a Labor federal government—but it is not them. We hear excuse after excuse. Rather than promising delivery, the member for Sandgate said that these projects deserve further exploration. That is what this government is all about: it is about smoke and mirrors.

We have an army of candidates who will represent the north side of Brisbane far better than this mob has for 30 of the past 35 years. It is an absolute disgrace to have eight ministers—half the cabinet—not representing their local areas and not making sure that we can move faster and get home quicker and that businesses can operate more efficiently on the north side of Brisbane. People such as Fiona Hammond, Amanda Cooper and Dean Clements from Pine Rivers will do a magnificent job. They have a proven track record and are true community people who will stick up for the north side of Brisbane.

(Time expired)