



Speech By  
**Hon. Tim Mander**


**MEMBER FOR EVERTON**

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Record of Proceedings, 12 December 2024

**MINISTERIAL STATEMENT**

**Sport Infrastructure**

 **Hon. TL MANDER** (Everton—LNP) (Minister for Sport and Racing and Minister for the Olympic and Paralympic Games) (10.13 am): Last weekend we saw an incredible feat in the sporting world when young 16-year-old sprint sensation Guot Guot ran the fastest time over 200 metres in Australian history—20.04 seconds—breaking a 56-year-old record. That is pretty quick, but I have seen something quicker. That was when the now opposition leader became the premier and ran away from the decisions of the Palaszczuk government around games infrastructure. Man, that was quick as well! He ran away from decisions. The delays, the deceit and the dithering were symbolised best by the Gabba knockdown and rebuild proposal, which went from \$1 billion to \$2.7 billion to \$3.4 billion—decisions that he criticised when he was the infrastructure minister who was responsible for every one of those decisions.

What happened then is that public sentiment in this state in relation to support of the games plummeted. It plummeted. Now we have the task of rebuilding confidence. We have done that in a number of ways. I congratulate the Deputy Premier on bringing together the Independent Infrastructure and Coordination Authority that will finally put this to rest after 100 days. We will build a legacy for this state for 50, 60, 70 years into the future.

The other thing we have done relates to not just elite sport infrastructure. During the election campaign we announced a program called Games On, a \$250 million program that will revive sporting infrastructure for communities right across this state. One of the big issues is that the regions need to understand that this games is not just for South-East Queensland; it is for the whole state. We want people, whether they live in Charleville, Augathella, Cook or Coolangatta, to look at something and say, 'We have that because we are holding the Olympic Games in 2032.' We are looking forward to making those announcements over the next few years and looking forward to having a legacy that Queenslanders can be proud of.