



Speech By  
**Hon. Leeanne Enoch**


**MEMBER FOR ALGESTER**

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Record of Proceedings, 25 March 2026

## ADJOURNMENT

### **Pallara State School; Arnol, Ms S; Roberts, Ms R**

 **Hon. LM ENOCH** (Algester—ALP) (9.00 pm): Pallara is the fastest growing suburb in my electorate of Algester. It has grown from around 500 residents in 2016 to close to 5,000 today, with further growth still expected. Not surprisingly, Pallara State School has experienced rapid growth in student numbers over the same period, so much so that a few years ago it was determined that a separate prep to year 1 junior campus was deemed necessary to accommodate the growing student population. At the start of this year, we saw the official opening of the junior campus by the Premier alongside his Minister for Education. According to the minister's own social media—

... you could sense the enthusiasm in the air as the students prepared for the new school year!

However, while the ribbons were being cut and the photos taken, the families of those students were already dealing with chaos: dangerous roads, limited footpaths, unsafe crossings and traffic congestion that now stretches up to 40 minutes during peak school times.

After nearly 20 years of an LNP council in Brisbane, growth in Pallara has been extraordinary with more and more development approved every year, yet roads such as Ritchie Road have been left behind, effectively handed over to developers without the proper investment in kerbing, crossings or pedestrian safety. Our local hardworking councillor, Emily Kim, has been raising these concerns consistently, but her repeated requests for the Lord Mayor to visit Pallara and see these conditions firsthand have gone unanswered.

Recent local media reports highlighted these concerns, documenting traffic gridlock, frustrated parents and growing fears for student safety. Despite that coverage, we have seen no meaningful response from council and no urgency from the state government to step in and coordinate a solution. This is not about politics; it is about children crossing dangerous roads, parents navigating inadequate infrastructure, teachers having to don high-vis vests to manage traffic and a government that celebrates openings but fails to deliver the basics that make those facilities safe.

Why has the LNP council failed to fund critical upgrades on Ritchie Road and refused to engage with the community that is raising legitimate safety concerns? Why did the LNP state government not ensure that the surrounding infrastructure was ready in time for the opening of the new campus? I am calling on the minister to assess the risks, implement immediate safety measures and deliver what this community desperately needs. That means safe crossings, traffic calming measures, proper signage, speed management and infrastructure that reflects the reality of a growing school population. If the LNP are serious about turning their slogans into action then the minister can start by fixing the Pallara disaster.

In the short time I have left I want to pay tribute to Simone Arnol and Rhoda Roberts, two incredible Aboriginal women who made their individual marks in the Indigenous political and arts landscapes. Both women succumbed to ovarian cancer last week and both will be remembered for their

legacy. In particular, to Simone Arnol's family, the Singleton family; especially her husband, Bernie; and the Yarrabah community I send my love and deepest sympathies. I will miss Simone's unique energy and her full-speed, no-breaks approach to life. Vale, Simone Arnol.