




Speech By
Nigel Hutton

MEMBER FOR KEPPEL

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ADJOURNMENT

Keppel Electorate

 **Mr HUTTON** (Keppel—LNP) (9.15 pm): To live in Keppel is to live in a part of the world that is blessed. It is beautiful and many people want to come and live there; however, we are in the midst of a housing crisis which has been caused by a lack of investment and planning throughout the decade of decline. Action is required. I am proudly delivering for my community, in partnership with my local councils in Livingstone and Rockhampton, along with working with developers to ensure that more Central Queenslanders have a place to call home.

Just this last week we had the Deputy Premier join Team CQ in our community for a sod turning for one of the Residential Activation Fund projects funded in round 1. This project, when joined together with four other projects in CQ, will see over 4,000 homes in our region. Unfortunately, there is just not enough housing, and at local schools in Farnborough, The Caves, Yeppoon and Emu Park there is work to do to ensure safe access for our children and their families. I am working with these families to get the planning and design work done so we can get these projects on track. We need to hunt down the funding and deliver improvements for these school communities. These are not 'nice to haves'; these are essentials. The consequence of growth in our community should not be reduced livability for those who live there.

The Tandy Road corridor is yet another example of how our community was left behind under the former government. Year on year, this road has seen increased traffic and an increase in the population using the road, yet there was no design, there was no plan and there was no work for a vital corridor to meet our growing community's needs. Alas, things that should have been done years ago are going to have to be done now, with logical and rational infrastructure put in place by our team. I have heard the voice of my community. I will work with my local council. We are going to work to make sure we get the design and planning for the Tandy Road corridor underway. This should not have had to wait until today; this work should have started years ago.

In my community this week we will have a funeral for a life that was lost all too soon: young Charlotte Zilm. I had the privilege of teaching her in grade 3 and again being part of her education when she came and joined us at Yeppoon State High School. Her loss to her family and our community is grave, and I share in the grief of our community at this time. To her family and friends I offer my love and a reminder that, even in these times of great darkness, when we walk together towards the light we will find peace. Vale, young Charlotte.