



15/10/03

LAI'D UPON THE TABLE OF THE HOUSE  
THE CLERK OF THE PARLIAMENT

**MINISTERIAL STATEMENT**  
**ROBERT SCHWARTEN**

**BEATTIE GOVERNMENT DELIVERS ON**  
**COMMUNITY RENEWAL ELECTION COMMITMENTS**

Mr Speaker,

In September 1998, the <sup>OK</sup> Beattie Government established a comprehensive initiative drawing together state, non-government and local agencies to reinvigorate communities in Queensland struggling with complex social and economic stress.

Since then, \$83.5 million has been committed to the Community Renewal Program and I am pleased to report to the House that we are fulfilling our election commitments to the people of Queensland.

In consultation with residents in 15 local <sup>COMMUNITY</sup> renewal areas across the state, we have funded 548 projects.

Community Renewal directs planning and resources to community-identified issues, ranging from youth homelessness and family breakdown to inequalities in infrastructure.

Community Renewal provides job creation initiatives, vocational and life skills training and innovative education and local economic development projects to bring about sustainable solutions and change.

In December 1998, we commenced Community Renewal in Eagleby, Kingston, Loganlea, Woodridge, Garbutt in Townsville, Manoora in Cairns, Inala and the Ipswich suburbs of Goodna/Gailes, Leichhardt and Riverview/Dinmore.

Programs in Caboolture South and Deception Bay followed in November 1999 and Palm Island in July 2000 and in our first term projects included: the provision of health services including child health and nurses to caravan park residents in Logan; an upgrade of the Woodridge Adventure Park — by consulting with local young people on new sporting facilities; and, renovations to four schools in Deception Bay by 12 previously unemployed young people.

This term, \$45 million is continuing Community Renewal in some existing areas, finalising efforts in other areas and commenced renewal programs in the Vincent and Rasmussen suburbs in the Townville region.

Projects this term include: a new \$900,000 community centre in Leichhardt (officially opened by the Premier on 12<sup>th</sup> July this year) that provides residents with access to job search and literacy and numeracy programs, counselling services and a long day child care centre; \$92,000 for a 21 week employment and training program for five young people in Manoora to beautify and upgrade public parks; \$453,000 for antenatal education and a playgroup for young fathers to help them bond with their children and meet other Dads; and, the employment of a public safety officer for three years in Caboolture South, whose vehicle theft reduction project

has already helped reduce vehicle theft in a particular hotspot by 50 percent compared with the same time the previous year.

Mr Speaker,

Community Renewal is achieving its goal of helping develop communities where people feel valued, safe and proud.

Last month, the Gold Coast Mayor wrote to me to express his support and appreciation for the Eagleby program and I table that letter.

And the Mayor of Logan City last month acknowledged Community Renewal funding for the success of the Station Road Revitalisation Project in Woodridge in his column in the City and Shire Leader.

There is no doubt that Community Renewal is a great success story for this government – one of which every Member can be proud because it is making a real difference in the lives of Queenslanders – and I congratulate all local members and communities for their hard work and commitment to the program.