



Speech By  
**Mark Boothman**


**MEMBER FOR ALBERT**

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## ADJOURNMENT

### Albert Electorate, School Infrastructure

 **Mr BOOTHMAN** (Albert—LNP) (1.10 am): Many times in this chamber I have risen to speak about the enormous population growth on the northern Gold Coast. It certainly places an enormous amount of strain on not just our transport infrastructure but also our local schools. Highland Reserve State School has seen strong population growth since its creation. This has caused extensive traffic congestion at drop-off and pick-up times. Highland Way, which is located at the rear boundary of the school between Highland Reserve estate and the school, has opened in the last few months and has become a preferred route for many students who reside in the estate. Unfortunately, this creates a precarious situation for students who are trying to cross Highland Way.

On 6 July I wrote to the minister's office seeking a purpose-built access point for the back of the school to link to Highland Way. On 12 November I wrote to the minister seeking a crossing guard to create a safe environment for the students to cross Highland Way. On 27 February this year I again wrote to the Minister for Main Roads seeking a crossing guard, to further highlight the community's concern of children crossing this busy road. I have to say that local residents are very upset that there has been no action on this issue. There are cars pulled over on the side of the road with parents and children walking across the road in front of them and it is very hard to see them. Something needs to be done as soon as possible to get a crossing guard.

Coomera Springs State School, which is located only a short distance north of Highland Reserve, has also seen massive growth in population. This year many students were forced to take classes in the teachers' staff room because the school has simply run out of classrooms. On 6 July I wrote to the Minister for Education seeking a permanent solution to the rapid growth at this school. On 3 February this year I again wrote to the minister, pleading with her to install a permanent solution to cater for the population growth. The minister's office has given us temporary demountable classrooms, but this is something that the local school community is not particularly happy with because, as teachers and parents can attest to, they feel that these things are sweatboxes. All I am asking is that in this year's budget the government finally bite the bullet and give us some permanent classroom solutions for Coomera Springs. It is a very fast growing region of the northern Gold Coast and it certainly needs attention.