

Maroochydore | Electorate News

E-NEWSLETTER

Fiona Simpson MP
MEMBER FOR MAROOCHYDORE



Labor stalls jobs and economic growth

An 11% slump in the construction industry in Queensland in the last quarter is part of an ongoing slide in business investment and confidence in the State since the Labor Government took office.

During the parliamentary Budget Estimates process I questioned the Main Roads Minister about \$660m in funding, provided for by the LNP's last budget, which Labor Government didn't spend by the end of the financial year. This delay has cost jobs. The money has been rolled over to this financial year, but the delay means the construction industry is still waiting for work to be rolled out, causing hardship.

Some have described the conditions in civil construction as the worst in 35 years.

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Minister poo-hoos loo at popular Mt Coolum - Get behind petition to change his mind

I am seeking support for a petition to call on the Government to provide toilet facilities and more parking at our much-loved Mt Coolum National Park.

In response to a request on behalf of local residents, the Minister has said no to public toilets, advising that the nearest public toilet is 1.8km away in Birrahl Park which he thinks is satisfactory for the 10,000 plus people who climb Mt Coolum every month.

Clearly this isn't good enough. Local residents and visitors to the park have raised the urgent need for public toilet facilities to be provided at the entrance to Mt Coolum National Park to stop people using the park and their yards.

Asking people to travel another 1.8 kilometres to the nearest public toilet after they've done a 2 hour return trip to the summit clearly isn't acceptable. Most people wouldn't even know where these distant toilets are and that's why they're using the National Park instead.

I am asking both local residents and visitors to the area to sign the petition to make their views known to the Minister.

Please join the campaign to see facilities improved in the area, by signing the on-line e-petition <http://www.parliament.qld.gov.au/work-of-assembly/petitions/e-petition?PetNum=2437> or the paper petition at the mobile juice and coffee cart in the visitors car park. Closing date 10 October.



Safety issues at Ocean Street taxi rank

I love the wonderful dining areas and entertainment that have sprung up in Ocean Street. It has become a very popular place with people of all ages enjoying it, particularly during the monthly markets. However, there are some urgent issues to fix so we keep it safe for all and I have called on the Attorney General to act urgently.

Local venue operators and Suncoast Cabs are warning that the area is now the busiest taxi rank on the Sunshine Coast which means a taxi marshal and security guard to help facilitate the smooth departure of patrons from our popular Ocean Street night spot. The Local Safe Night Out Board have submitted an application for funding to fix this, but the Attorney General's office have put the funding on hold and are refusing to answer questions about when this will be available.



[READ MORE:](#)

Deaths, injury and accidents on road to our new Hospital

In recent Parliamentary Estimates Hearings I took up the funding fight to fix a dangerous bottleneck leading to the Sunshine Coast Public University Hospital, asking the Main Roads Minister what his plan was to address the existing problem which would become worse once the hospital opens in 2016.

[READ MORE:](#)

Land set aside for conservation at Twin Waters

I'm celebrating a win for the environment with a 15 hectare parcel of land formerly leased by the Novotel Twin Waters Resort now being formally incorporated into the Maroochy River Regional Park.

I have lobbied with the local community for many years to see this land protected for conservation as it provides an important fauna and flora link to the rest of the park with the opportunity to both protect high-value vegetation and restore other areas.

I am advised that this was approved by the Governor in Council on 11 June 2015.

This decision will allow two parts of the conservation area that were previously separated to be connected, providing a continuous conservation area from the Maroochy River shoreline to the rest of the Regional Park north of Ocean Drive.



Urgent action needed to tackle Domestic and Family Violence

We are all saddened by the tragic domestic violence events over recent weeks and as a community we must step up on this issue to eradicate this violence from our communities.

There are a number of helplines to provide immediate support:

DVConnect Womensline 1800 811 811

DVConnect Mensline 1800 600 636

Elder Abuse Helpline 1300 651 192

Sexual Assault Helpline 1800 010 120

[READ MORE:](#)

Should Queensland have fixed four year terms?

You are invited to have your say in a Parliamentary Inquiry into possible changes to parliamentary terms at an upcoming public forum to be held at the Novotel Twin Waters Resort on Thursday 1st Oct from 2-4pm.

Or you can make a submission (closing date 20 Oct) via the link:

www.parliament.qld.gov.au/work-of-committees/committees/FAC.

Currently, the Premier of Queensland can call a general election at his or her whim, subject to the agreement of the Governor, which has resulted in an average term of parliament of just 2 years and 9 months since 2004.

[READ MORE:](#)

ATO Community Conversations for Small Business

Small businesses may be interested to attend a round table discussion for small business being offered by the Australian Tax Office.

The aim of these events is to hear what the ATO can do to make things easier for small business.

The Sunshine Coast Community Conversation is being held on:

Thursday 8th October

Maroochy RSL, Memorial Avenue, Maroochydore

From 5.30pm

Registrations: <http://lets-talk.ato.gov.au/CommunityConversations>

OUT AND ABOUT



Supporting local business with Ted O'Brien at the Big Top Markets



Helping in the kitchen with Steve Dickson MP and volunteers at Maroochydore Meals on Wheels.



Presenting new Queensland Flag to Pacific Paradise Bowls club President Tom Hawke.



Site visit with Cr Steve Robinson and LNP Candidate Ted O'Brien at our new-look Coolum Civic Centre

