



Speech By
Jann Stuckey

MEMBER FOR CURRUMBIN

Record of Proceedings, 22 March 2018

PRIVATE MEMBERS' STATEMENTS

Currumbin Electorate

 **Mrs STUCKEY** (Currumbin—LNP) (2.38 pm): I have spoken in this House of my desire for Currumbin to shine at our Commonwealth Games and for them to be super successful. I have been doing all I can to keep residents and businesses informed. At last week's Greater Southern Gold Coast Chamber of Commerce breakfast the Minister for the Commonwealth Games assured a restaurant owner who was pleading for some car parks to be returned that she would look into it and see what could be done.

A local Currumbin cafe trader called my office today pretty fired up. A document informing him of upcoming works was hand delivered to his business yesterday afternoon and works commenced this morning. That is less than 24 hours notice. I table the document that he was handed yesterday afternoon that told him that works will start in his street in the week commencing 22 March—that happens to be today—until 30 March. The estimated working hours will be Monday to Friday, 7 am to 5 pm. This cafe serves breakfast and lunch. He has been told to remove all vehicles from the roadside by the start of works.

The proprietor's staff called him at 10 o'clock this morning, asking if he wanted them to stay open as there were no customers at all and no access to the restaurant due to the works. At 1.32 today, my office received an email from the cafe owner, who also sent it to Goldoc and the councillor, saying—

After a week and a half of full-time construction, I am down probably 50 per cent of my trade, certainly more this week if I do not average it out, but today I am down 90 per cent. I have two more weeks before I even get to opening ceremony. I cannot absorb these losses. Today I had no choice after roadworks in front of my cafe but to close at lunch to cut costs. The flow-on is that my vendors do not get orders, my staff do not get hours, et cetera.

Long story short, I am asking that the three entities that you represent—GOLDOC, council and state—kick the can and come up with \$10,000 to cover my rent and minimal outgoings over March and April. This leaves me holding a very empty bag of rocks. Your organisation's efforts to mitigate losses on Pacific Parade have come too little and too late, and many of us will have trouble paying rent without digging into our savings or lines of credit, not to mention real challenges now keeping staff to even work during games time as they have bills to pay.

My concern is for all my fellow business owners, but I need to take care of my own interests and trust that they will do so accordingly. Please understand this is not a course of action that we want to take, but we feel we have no alternative. You have to understand we cannot financially sit idle and bear the brunt financially.

The writer has asked that a review and response from the minister and Goldoc be given posthaste. We all want the games to be successful, but let us hope that some of our small businesses do not go under in the process.

Tabled paper: Document, dated 21 March 2018, titled 'Notification of Road Works' regarding works at Pacific Parade, Currumbin [\[427\]](#).