



KAWANA TODAY

COVERING NEWS AND VIEWS FROM THE KAWANA ELECTORATE

Brought to you by Jarrod Bleijie MP



WELCOME

Kawana Today is designed to keep residents up to date on issues affecting our community. It also outlines the work I am doing as your representative in the Queensland Parliament.

2020 has certainly been a year like no other. Our community has faced unprecedented challenges, both on a health and economic front, and there are many individuals and businesses who have suffered throughout this period. Notwithstanding this, there has also been some very positive examples of our community coming together and supporting one another through this tough period.

I am so proud to represent you and all residents of the Kawana electorate in the Queensland Parliament. Like you, I live here with my wife, Sally, and our three children, Taylor, Madison and Jasper. I take very seriously the job you have entrusted me with – representing our region's interest at a state level.

I encourage you to contact my office on (07) 5406 3100 should you wish to discuss any matter.

Jarrod



THE LNP WILL EXPAND THE SUNSHINE COAST STADIUM



The LNP has announced it will commit \$20 million to fund an expansion of the Sunshine Coast Stadium if elected to government at the upcoming state election on October 31.

Kawana MP, Jarrod Bleijie, said the people of the Sunshine Coast deserve a first-class sports stadium to help drive economic growth in the region and create more local jobs.

"These types of job-creating infrastructure projects are needed now more than ever," he said.

"The stadium expansion is an incredible opportunity to develop a major facility that can compete on the national stage for sporting, recreational and entertainment events.

"A modern stadium will help pack the calendar with high profile events that attract visitors to the region, which is a big win for the local tourism industry."

The redevelopment will also help grow the sports economy on the Sunshine Coast, which already accounts for \$442 million in economic activity and almost 2000 full time equivalent jobs.

"Expanding the stadium is about planning for the future of this region and delivering the infrastructure a growing population needs," Mr Bleijie said.

"It means more sport, concerts, events and tourism opportunities for the Sunshine Coast."

The stadium expansion will see an increased venue capacity of 16,618 in stage one and is designed to allow for future development for a total capacity of 23,400 patrons.



Battling COVID-19

2020 is proving to be one of the most challenging periods in recent history. Coronavirus cases have surged throughout the world and, sadly, many Australians have lost their lives.

Despite these confronting circumstances, there has been many uplifting examples of businesses and individuals coming together to provide support and care packages for those that are vulnerable in our community.

Member for Kawana, Jarrod Bleijie said the Sunshine Coast community had done a tremendous job looking after each other but warned that whilst our region had fared relatively well on the virus front, the ongoing health, and economic challenges could not be understated. "Queenslanders have done a great job to follow the health advice and suppress this virus but it's really critical that we don't become complacent," Mr Bleijie said.

"Aside from ensuring we remain virus free, I encourage everyone to look after their mental wellbeing and look out for those around them.

Mr Bleijie also highlighted the significant challenges businesses are facing due to forced closures and travel restrictions.

"As a region that relies on tourism, thousands of Sunshine Coast businesses are doing it extremely tough," he said.

"Thankfully, with financial support packages like JobKeeper, many businesses have been able to stay afloat and support their employees as best they can.

"The best thing we can do as a community is to shop local, support our small businesses which are the backbone to our local Sunshine Coast economy, and ensure we do all we can to help keep people employed and businesses buoyant."



Jarrod preparing care packages

Free Travel for Seniors and Students

Kawana MP, Jarrod Bleijie has announced the LNP's bold plan to bust congestion across South-East Queensland by offering free travel to seniors and students.

If elected to government on October 31, the LNP will introduce free off-peak travel for all seniors across the Citytrain network, which stretches from Gympie to the Gold Coast and inland to Ipswich.

Students starting full-time university and TAFE courses across Queensland will also be given \$500 vouchers to pay for bus or train fares – or petrol if they live in areas lacking public transport.

"Queensland needs big ideas to bust its congestion crisis," Mr Bleijie said.

"An LNP Government will take swift action to get our region moving again.

"The LNP's plan is a big win for commuters and a big saving for seniors and students."

Under the LNP travel plan, seniors would be offered free travel on the Citytrain network between 8.30am and 3.30pm and between 7pm and 6am, as well as all-day on weekends and public holidays.

Targeting Hoons

The LNP will put the brakes on Queensland's hooning problem with new cameras, new laws and new technology which will literally shred the tyres of dangerous drivers.

Jarrod Bleijie MP said hooning gangs were causing misery for local communities and putting the lives of innocent Queenslanders at risk.

"It's time to get tough on these hoons because right now they're laughing at the law and the soft Palaszczuk Labor Government," Mr Bleijie said.

"Hooning is becoming a regular activity, particularly around areas in Birtinya, Currumbundi and Meridan Plains.

"Our plan will get hoons off our streets and make our local communities safe again."

The LNP's plan includes

- 1) **100 new covert CCTV cameras**
- 2) **Tyre-shredding road surfaces in burnout hotspots**
- 3) **New anti-hooning gang laws**

Community Snapshot

(Photos taken prior to social distancing)



Currimundi Lake Clean up event



Kawana Park Eagles Junior AFL



Marquee Sponsorship



Launch of The Good Place Kawana

Jarrod's say

On October 31st, Queenslanders will vote in the next state election. At stake will be our state's direction for the next four years. It's important we look beyond the immediate lens of the coronavirus pandemic, which has consumed much of 2020, and consider the track record of the current state government.

Even before coronavirus, Queensland was at the bottom of Australia's economic ladder. We had the worst unemployment rate in the nation. In fact, every year since 2017, our state has had the worst unemployment in Australia. We also had the highest youth unemployment rate in the nation. We had the unenviable title as the bankruptcy capital of Australia and we had a state debt that had never been higher despite nine new taxes introduced by the Palaszczuk government. These new taxes are not only taking cash directly from the pockets of Queensland families but have increased the cost of living and stripped \$35 billion out of the economy.

We have witnessed a hooning and youth crime explosion with watered down penalties for offenders and, sadly, we have a child safety crisis putting the lives of innocent children at risk.

Our hospital wait times have completely blown out, ambulance ramping has returned and our education results have gone backwards. We've also had a state government embroiled in one integrity scandal after another, and a Premier controlled entirely by union bosses.

Unlike Labor, the LNP has a clear and fully costed plan to get Queensland working again.

We'll build our way out of recession and bust congestion across our local region with a \$1billion program of new road infrastructure. We'll build major infrastructure projects to stimulate the economy and create thousands of new jobs.

We've announced new hooning laws and a tough new policy to tackle juvenile crime in Queensland. We'll also protect our children from predators with a public sex offender register and introduce new online grooming laws. Crucially, the LNP will completely overhaul Labor's broken child safety system and create a new Child Protection Force which would operate 24 hours a day and include a rapid-response team and new squad of police investigators. It will also include mandatory drug testing with no second chances, extended payments for foster carers and more adoption orders. We'll declutter the curriculum in our schools and introduce phonics screening to boost literacy. We'll also fix our hospital wait times by partnering with the private sector and, importantly, there will be no new taxes under an LNP government.

Let's get Queensland working again.





\$200,000 Upgrade for Kawana Surf Lifesaving Club



Member for Kawana Jarrod Bleijie has pledged that the Kawana Waters Surf Lifesaving Club will be upgraded to the tune of \$200,000 if the LNP are elected at the upcoming state election.

"At 10km in length, Kawana has one of the longest open beaches on the Sunshine Coast which is why I have been fighting to secure funding to ensure the Kawana Surf Lifesaving Club has the facilities it needs to accommodate the growing area," Mr Bleijie said.

"The LNP is committed to making Queensland the safest place to live, work and raise a family and as a coastal community, it is our responsibility to do everything possible to keep people on our beaches safe from harm.

"Although an iconic part of our national culture, it's easy to forget these clubs survive on donations from businesses and everyday Queenslanders to keep them on the sand."

As patron of the Club since 2009, Mr Bleijie has participated in scores of fundraising events and said it is rewarding to be part of a club with such dedicated volunteers and members.



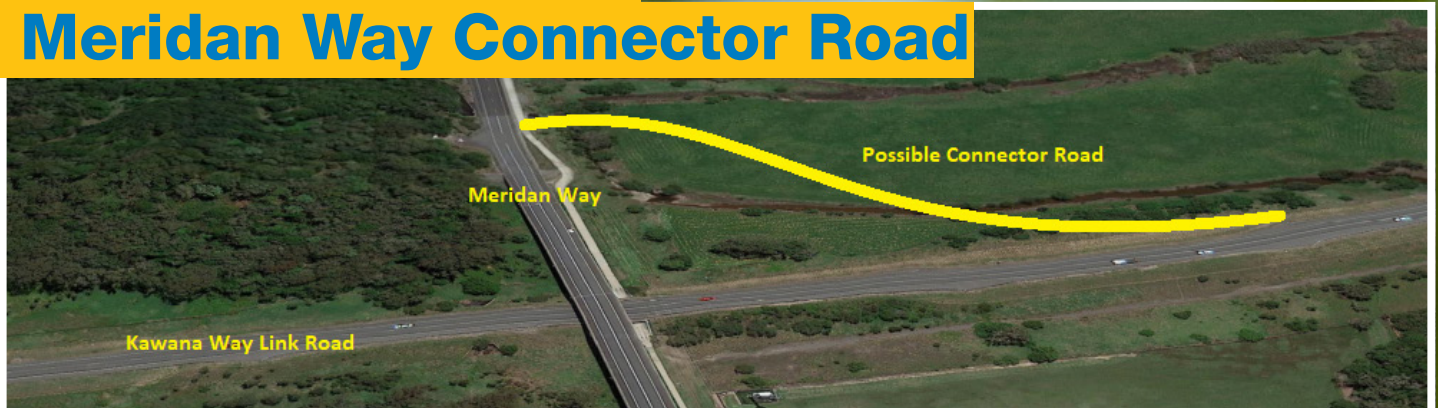
Marquees for Clubs

Applications are now open for the next round of Jarrod Bleijie's sponsored marquees.

If you are involved in a local not-for-profit club or organisation in the Kawana electorate and would like to apply for a free sponsored marquee, simply email kawana@parliament.qld.gov.au with your club or organisation's details along with your contact information to register.



Jarrold's Plan for a Meridan Way Connector Road



Kawana MP, Jarrod Bleijie has announced that an LNP government will commit \$100,000 for a scoping study to find the best way to connect Meridan Way to Kawana Way Link Road.

Mr Bleijie said connecting Meridan Plains to the Kawana Way Link Road would significantly ease congestion and improve safety around Parklands Boulevard and Meridan State College and get motorists home sooner.

"Our community campaign to get the upgrade of Parklands Boulevard brought forward was successful and it is great to see it almost completed," he said.

"If we want to see a further reduction in congestion and improved safety around Meridan State College, it makes sense that we have an interchange from Meridan Way to Kawana Way Link Road.

It was revealed in State Parliament via a Question on Notice submitted by Mr Bleijie that the Palaszczuk Labor government has no intention to provide a connection from Meridan Plains to Kawana Way Link Road.

"There is a practical solution here to help with a further reduction of local travel congestion and I am shocked that the current state government won't even consider the merits of this project, Mr Bleijie said.

"I think every resident that lives around Meridan Plains, Little Mountain, Currimundi and Aroona understands how beneficial an interchange onto Kawana Way Link Road would be for local traffic congestion, travel times and access to Birtinya and Kawana.

"If you would like to see a connection between Meridan Way and Kawana Way Link Road I would love your feedback."

Please visit www.MeridanConnect.com.au to have your say!



Jarrold's Mobile Office Locations

Have a local or state issue you'd like to discuss with Jarrod? Call, email, or visit his office in Minyama, or catch him at the following mobile office locations around the Kawana Electorate.

LA Balsa PARK

Harbour Pde, Buddina
Monday, 28th September 2020, 8am – 9am

WYANDA PARK

Oceanic Drive, Warana
Tuesday, 29th September 2020, 8am – 9am

SIMPSON PARK

Piringa Street, Wurtulla
Thursday, 1st October 2020
8am – 9am

BUDERIM STREET

Currimundi (beside Currimundi State School car park)
Tuesday, 6th October 2020, 8am – 9am

PARKLANDS BOULEVARD

Meridan Plains (opposite NightOwl)
Thursday, 8th October 2020
8am – 9am

TUMBLEDOWN PARK

Bellara Drive, Currimundi (opposite Talara Primary College)
Tuesday, 13th October 2020
8am – 9am



Cracking Down on Youth Crime

Youth crime on the Sunshine Coast will be tackled by tough new laws and an overhaul to the justice system if the LNP wins the next state election on October 31. Kawana MP Jarrod Bleijie said the LNP's comprehensive plan to crack down on youth crime would increase community safety.

As part of the LNP's comprehensive youth crime plan, youth offenders on bail will be monitored 24/7, there will be mandatory detention for third convictions, a Community Payback Farm program will be established to rehabilitate repeat offenders, youth bail houses will be scrapped, and justice reinvestment will be trialled to increase early intervention.

"Everyone on the Sunshine Coast has a right to feel safe in their home and out on the streets," Mr Bleijie said.

"We need to make a stand against youth crime on the Sunshine Coast, but Labor hasn't got the guts to tackle the problem."

Robbery on the Sunshine Coast has increased by 121% since Annastacia Palaszczuk became Premier while unlawful use of a motor vehicle has increased 86%.

"An LNP Government will stop youth crime in its tracks and there will be true consequences for young repeat offenders, not just slaps on the wrist like under Labor," Mr Bleijie said.

Protecting our kids from predators

The LNP has announced its plan for a public child sex offender register to strengthen the safety of children in Queensland. Under the scheme, parents will be able to discover the identity of child sex offenders living in their neighbourhood. The new public register would also allow parents to check the background of anyone who has regular unsupervised access to their children.

Kawana MP, Jarrod Bleijie, said as a father of three kids, he believes every parent has the right to know if someone is a threat to their kids.

"Protecting children is more important than protecting the anonymity of pedophiles", he said.

"If we can prevent one child from becoming the victim of sexual abuse these laws will be worth it."

The LNP has also vowed to give police new powers to prosecute pedophiles who use the internet to groom children for sexual abuse.

Mr Bleijie said the laws would be based on South Australia's Carly's Law – introduced after 15-year-old Carly Ryan was raped and murdered by a 50-year-old pedophile who had posed online as a teenage student. "As a father, I fully understand the dangers involved with social media and the LNP will do whatever it takes to keep kids safe," he said.



GET IN TOUCH
With Jarrod

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