

## STEVE DAVIES ELECTION RESPONSES

### **Cost of living –**

- Please outline what you/your party would do to contain cost of living increases, particularly your view on electricity and water pricing.
- Cost of living has been terribly affected by the huge debt burden Queensland carries. The LNP's Strong Choices plan looks at leasing some assets to reduce debt, regain our AAA credit rating and invest in much-needed infrastructure while providing real cost of living relief for Redlanders.
- Water pricing : Our government has slashed Labor's proposed \$80+ price rise per year to \$49 this year and to \$5 in 2016/2017
- Electricity pricing: The Government's key cost of living policy is the setting up of The Strong Choices Cost of Living Fund. This \$3.4Billion fund will ensure payment of the 44c tariff to solar users under the terms of their contract but take the burden off electricity users to fund the initiative. This will mean Redlands households will be on average \$120 per year better off. We also are working to reduce the "gold plating" of the network, which also leads to price increases.

### **Transport and roads infrastructure -**

- Do you/your party support a significant Government investment in transport and roads infrastructure?
- Yes, we do. A significant part our Stronger Choices \$8.6Billion future Investment programs has been earmarked to deliver these services. I have and will continue to advocate strongly to Government the need for dual carriageway exits out of Redlands to ease congestion and meet future needs, including Mount Cotton and Ricketts roads and the upgrades of bottlenecks like the Tilley Road intersection on Old Cleveland Road. The LNP Government's plan to tackle debt will mean we will be able to deliver these projects sooner and without increasing the debt burden on the taxpayers of Queensland.
- Road infrastructure for southern Redlands
- I have and will continue to advocate strongly to Government the need for dual carriageway exits out of Redlands including Mt Cotton and Ricketts roads and the upgrades of bottle necks like the Tilley Road intersection on Old Cleveland Road. The Government's plan to tackle debt will mean we will be able to deliver these projects sooner and without increasing the debt burden on the taxpayers of Queensland.
- Duplication of Cleveland rail line Duplication of rail line is important but it is a very expensive exercise. I am very pro-duplication but ultimately it is a project for when the state budget is back in the black.
- Commitment to fast track Eastern Busway link city
- We have just announced \$50 Million for a Bus Transitway from Coorparoo to Carindale. This will mean a saving of between 7-10 minutes for Redlanders on a trip into the city. The next step will be tackling the Carindale to Capalaba section and what is needed to get bus commute times down.
- Port of Brisbane connection.
- This project will provide huge benefits. I believe the upgrading of Ricketts Road and Tilley Road Intersection would be the initial part of this project. I am very committed

to see this project get up in the short to medium term because of the economic benefits for Capalaba and the Redlands.

- Capalaba overpass.
- While I am absolutely for this piece of infrastructure there are a number of things that need to come first, including the dual carriageway of Mt Cotton Road from Lyndon Road to Mackenzie and upgrading to four lanes for Ricketts Road, including a bridge over Tingalpa Creek. Both these projects would alleviate the current congestion and take pressure off Redland Bay Road/ Moreton Bay Road and Old Cleveland Road
- What are your/your party's funding/program priorities and what commitment do you/your party give to delivering the projects?
- The LNP is committed to delivering and improving frontline services, including health, education and disability services. We also have a plan to invest in much-needed infrastructure, including roads, hospitals schools and other facilities.

### **Economic development–**

- Do you/your party support initiatives that will grow the Redlands economy and create jobs?
- The role of government is to facilitate opportunity and provide the environment that gives business confidence to expand and employ. We have already done a lot to make this happen including declaring the two Priority Development Areas (PDAs) at Toondah Harbour and Weinam Creek. These will be two of the biggest projects ever in the Redlands that will generate thousands of jobs and provide a massive injection into the local economy. Projects such as Toondah Harbour and Weinam Creek PDAs are vital, as are projects like Shoreline which will provide the jobs and infrastructure the Redlands need
- As a Government we are very pro-business, particularly small to medium size business, which are the engine room of employment. The important thing for business investment is confidence. As a Government we have done much to create an environment of confidence for business, including red tape reduction. The Queensland Government also offers funding programs, often in the form of grants, and business support services, to help new and established businesses grow and succeed.
- The role of Government is to enable business to employ. We have done much to unshackle business so they can employ. We have also created programs that encourage employers to take on staff/ apprentices including the Queensland Apprenticeship Pledge. This program invited individual employers, including employers who did not currently have apprentices, to 'make a pledge' to employ additional apprentices. Eligible employers can receive an incentive of up to \$6,000 for each additional apprentice they employ and retain.
- North Stradbroke Island Economic Transition: The LNP by extending sandmining on North Stradbroke Island has given the residents of Straddie and those who work in mining the security to transition within a reasonable timeframe to Tourism which is ultimately the island's future.
- What would be your/your party's priorities to help grow the Redlands economy?

- We have already worked in Partnership with RCC on a number of significant projects such as the PDAs and look forward to continue to see sustainable development that enhances the Redlands.
- Please state your position on the City's PDAs? They are just the boost that Redlands needs. See comments above
- Do you support other developments that will strengthen the economy and create local jobs?
- Yes wholeheartedly. See above.
- Do you support a university for the Redlands? If yes, what role should the government play?
- I have been working for the Past three years to see a University established in The Redlands, this has included talks with University Providers, including discussions regarding location, infrastructure and need. If elected, I will continue to lobby to facilitate establishment of a university in the Redlands.

#### **Government services-**

- What do you consider to be the priorities for delivery of Government services in the Redlands? What can you/your party do to improve services?

Improving health services, including mental health:

- We have a comprehensive plan to improve health including the Waiting List Guarantee, the addition of more than 500 nurses and doctors in the Metro South Health District hospitals (Logan, QE2 and Redlands) and the recent opening of emergency beds at Redlands. We have also recently opened in Redlands a mental health accommodation facility. We also have a Headspace opening in Capalaba in late 2015 that will provide much-needed mental health support to young adults.
- Home Assist funding: Home Assist funding that assists so many Redlanders will continue to be a priority of this Government.
- Homeless services and accommodation: I have been working hand in hand with Redland City Council and service providers to provide homeless services in the Redlands. This has included facilitating meetings with the appropriate ministers as well as hands-on advocacy. I would hope to see this service up and running this term, if elected.
- Domestic violence response: I and the other LNP members have worked very hard to deliver a dedicated domestic and family violence service for the Redlands. I am very proud to announce we have delivered recurring \$800,000 funding for this service, starting in March 2015. This funding will provide a comprehensive program that will deal with those suffering the scourge of DV as well as provide early intervention and education to nip this blight in the bud.

On the Education front we have invested in my electorate alone over \$5 Million to clear the disastrous maintenance backlog the ALP left, as well as over \$2 Million in the Great Start guarantee. Alexandra Hills TAFE is offering a record number of courses this year, including diplomas

We have already provided more police on the beat with more to come, making

our streets safer.

One of the big gains has been in social housing. When the LNP came to office there were more than 35,000 Queenslanders on the waiting list. This has been reduced to the high teens but will drop even further if the Government is re-elected.

We have already increased funding to the disability service sector and with the roll-out of the NDIS we will see further State funding to this much needed sector.

We have increased Trains and Bus Services and have invested \$50million dollars in upgrading Old Cleveland Rd to shorten the average trip to the city by at least 7 minutes.