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FEDERAL MEMBER FOR FORDE

Urgent & Specialist Care Centre
[5 MINUTE STATEMENT]

Speaker, as many in this place would know, the Logan region in my electorate is growing rapidly, however the population is also ageing which has been putting pressure on our local health services for years...

So, it's only right that the people of Logan receive the same access to timely, high quality health care that is already available in other capital cities like Sydney, Brisbane, Melbourne, Adelaide, Canberra and Perth.

I grew up in this region, this is my backyard. So, I know all too well why health services are so important for every single person who lives, works and comes to play in our region is. It is the most vital of all the services.

That is why when this side of the house were in government under PM Scott Morrison, we committed to a **33-million-dollar investment** to build the new **Logan Urgent and Specialist Care Centre**. That was a 33-million-dollar **coalition** commitment. Yes, a **coalition** commitment.

The idea of this **33-million-dollar investment** from the **LNP** was to help establish a state-of-the-art facility that would house over **31** specialist consulting rooms, together with **5** ultrasound imaging rooms, and thanks to that coalition commitment, this project is now underway.

The Logan Urgent and Specialist Care Centre which is expected to bulk bill, will include a minor injury and illness clinic along with a women's health outpatient centre which will provide gynaecology and antenatal services, which I believe are vital services to our community.

I think most in this place would agree that this project is an absolute win for the people of Logan. So, Speaker last week, I was proud to join other dignities to help turn the first sod of soil at the new site of the **Meadowbrook Health Centre** which is due to open up in early 2024.

Speaker, I am sure I stand with many of my coalition colleagues in this place today when I acknowledge the fabulous work that has been done

on this project due to funding from the **Former Morrison Government**.

Whilst member on my right continue to claim to be the 'saviours' to the people of Logan, I assure you Speaker, that the **Morrison Government** are the ones who secured this federal funding - four years ago in 2019.

If I remember correctly Speaker, Labor was elected almost **twelve** months ago, so I ask the question - why has it taken those opposite almost a year to lift a finger to get the project approved, and why has it taken so long for them to get the first sod of soil turned on the site???

Don't get me wrong Speaker, it is a tremendous project and one that the government have seen sense and followed through on, but those present in this place should know that it's thanks to funding from the Former **Scott Morrison Government**. This was not tabled under Labor.

Speaker, I am incredibly proud of this legacy investment from the Former Morrison Government. Because it means better healthcare that is quicker and closer to home for those who live in the City of Logan.

Thanks to the former coalition governments tabling of this funding four years ago, the **Logan Urgent and Specialist Care Centre** will open in early 2024 and operate seven days a week, assisting around **15,000** patients every single year. And that Speaker is an amazing achievement.

The establishment of the **Urgent and Specialist Care Centre** will ease pressure on the emergency department at nearby Logan Hospital and once up and running, the new centre will bring an extra 60 health staff to live and work right here in our region which is simply fantastic news.

I look forward to being at the official opening in early 2024 to witness this legacy coalition investment come to fruition on behalf of the former **Morrison Government**. I wish the construction team all the very best as they embark on this very exciting chapter in our very own backyard.

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