



Dear Neighbour,

Before I get into this newsletter, I want to express my gratitude and admiration to the whole west side community. This is my first newsletter since the west side COVID-19 outbreak, and much has happened since then, but I'm still feeling proud of how we pulled through it.

You all kept the broader community safe by staying home, getting tested, and helping your neighbours when they needed it. **Lockdown was hard for many of us, but particularly to the thousands of families directed to quarantine at home: thank you.**

Last month I addressed Parliament about the "Indooroopilly cluster". While the response from the Government, the community and frontline health workers was strong, there was also some confusion and understandable frustration around testing, inadequate income support, home quarantine orders and release letters. As we're now at the most crucial

and complex point of the pandemic response, where we have to chart an exit strategy out of emergency measures, I again called on Parliament to establish a COVID-19 Oversight Committee. To pull through this, the public must be able to have faith in the Government's health and economic response, which is why I think transparency and scrutiny are so important.

For me, the lockdown also highlighted the incredible work that community groups and support services are doing on the west side. **In this newsletter I've included a list of key resources and support, together with contact info, for your fridge.**

Also inside is information on our second round of **Community Support Grants** – funding up to \$1,500 for projects with a positive impact on the west side community. Applications close on 29 October!

On the middle pages you'll find updates on some of the key things I've been working on over the past few months, including the inner west's new school, local transport infrastructure, renters' rights, climate justice, budget estimates hearings, and my Bill to keep 10-13 year old children out of prison.

I'm sad that COVID-19 has meant I haven't been able to hold as many big in-person events this year, but I'm still holding pop-up offices when I can, and I've scheduled another online Q&A session for 6-7pm on Tuesday 2 November. You can find the details of these events on the back page – and fingers crossed we'll have sausage sizzles, gardening days and more next year!

Yours in hope,
Michael
MICHAEL BERKMAN
Greens State MP for Maiwar



Getting my COVID-19 vaccine!



At St Lucia Kindergarten getting an update on the native beehive my office donated a few months ago

I only send these hard-copy mailouts twice per year to minimise waste, so remember to follow me on social media for more regular updates. You can also sign up to receive my e-newsletter every 2-3 weeks about local issues and events by scanning here



WHAT I'M WORKING ON...



FIXING WEST SIDE BUSES

I'm working for State funding to deliver **new fast, frequent buses**:

- Bardon to Toowong
- Indooroopilly to Fig Tree Pocket

I'm also working to **improve existing buses**:

- Indooroopilly to UQ (427, 428 & 432)
- Bardon, Milton and Paddington (375, 470, 471 & 475)
- Long Pocket (417) and more.

I'm also working for **dedicated bus lanes** on the Centenary Motorway and Moggill Rd.

I'm proud to have helped deliver **two new west side school buses**:

- Roma St - Toowong (\$744) for QASMT
- Chapel Hill - Indooroopilly (\$718) for ISS, ISHS, St Peters, Brigidine and Holy Family.



NEW PRIMARY SCHOOL FOR THE WEST SIDE

After years of overcrowded classrooms, I'm proud to say we're getting closer to giving west side kids a bit more space. The new school will open in January 2024. When this newsletter went to print, the Education Department had not announced the site for the new school.

Earlier this year, I secured an extended consultation period, and pushed for the State government to buy back private land for the new school. Whichever site is chosen, I'll continue advocating for the best possible deal for residents. For updates on the new school and the next stage of consultation, **sign up here**:



Of the two sites the Department is now considering, both have challenges:

- The site on the campus of Indooroopilly State High (cnr Ward and Carnarvon St) has major traffic and pedestrian safety issues, plus flooding and concerns about keeping residents' access to school green space.
- The site at the former Toowong Bowls Club at Gailey Rd Toowong will require a land swap to offset the loss of the old Bowlo and greens. There are also traffic, flooding and ecological issues.



BETTER PUBLIC TRANSPORT, NOT MORE TRAFFIC: REOPEN THE TENNYSON TRAIN LINE

I'm concerned about Council and the State Transport Minister's push to increase traffic in Indooroopilly by duplicating the Walter Taylor Bridge.

Secret modelling I obtained under Right to Information shows an extra car bridge would just move the bottleneck and encourage more southside residents to drive. It would also overshadow Witton Barracks Park and could

create a new trucking freight route through Indooroopilly.

Instead, I've started a campaign to spend the \$200m+ on reopening the Tennyson train line from Corinda to Yeerongpilly, creating a direct train from the west side to the southside and the Gold Coast.

Read more here



FEMALE FACES FOR PUBLIC PLACES



After I sponsored local legend Malia's petition for gender parity in public pictures, statues and plaques, I was chuffed when the Government responded by updating its statue approval guidelines and announcing grants for new statues of women. Malia's now working on getting a statue of Australian-born NASA scientist Abigail Allwood outside the Mt Coot-tha Planetarium! She's raised thousands of dollars to make it happen, and has plans for monuments to other incredible women like Cathy Freeman, Jessica Watson and more. Go Malia!

A HOME FOR ALL



In Parliament with Amy MacMahon, announcing our renters' rights bill

Queensland is in a housing crisis, with skyrocketing rents and at least 47,000 people waiting for social housing. In May, we introduced the Greens' renters rights bill to cap rent increases, end no-grounds evictions and let renters keep a pet - because everyone deserves a secure, affordable home. We're also continuing to push the Government to build more public housing, after they failed to commit any significant new funding to do so in this year's Budget.

2021-22 STATE BUDGET AND ESTIMATES HEARINGS

I recently attended this year's Budget Estimates hearings. Although Queensland's Estimates process is deeply flawed and offers little opportunity for genuine scrutiny, I did get to ask questions about:

- Funding for the Indooroopilly bikeway
- More high frequency buses on the west side
- The IPCC report and phasing out coal and gas
- Banning battery cages for hens
- Making ambulance services free for everyone
- Reopening the Tennyson train line

You can find all of my questions and answers at:

[MICHAELBERKMAN.COM.AU/PARLIAMENT](https://michaelberkman.com.au/parliament)

LOCAL DEVELOPMENT

Despite almost 2,000 signatures on our petition, the LNP Council refused to buy the former Sisters of Mercy site in Bardon and it's now been sold to a developer. I'll be keeping an eye on Council to make sure they follow through with their promise to protect the site.

Some residents have also reached out to me about the proposed development at Freer's Farm and Stuartholme School. We don't have much info on the application yet or when consultation will commence, so please email me or sign up for my e-newsletter to get updates on this.



VOLUNTARY ASSISTED DYING LAWS PASSED!

I was proud to vote in support of a legal framework for Voluntary Assisted Dying in Queensland last month. The scheme will allow people suffering from a terminal illness that is expected to cause death within 12 months to choose to die with dignity.



Attending regional hearings on the Voluntary Assisted Dying Bill in July

A SAFE FUTURE CLIMATE

The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change's 6th Assessment Report says the climate crisis will be catastrophic unless we act now. Meanwhile, the Federal LNP Government has no net zero emissions target and is giving public money to coal projects!

I've been pushing the Labor State Government to:

- Fund a big battery and workers' transition package instead of fixing the exploded turbine at coal-fired power station Callide C
- Rule out new coal and gas approvals, as per the International Energy Agency's Net Zero by 2050 report
- Invest in green steel manufacturing to replace metallurgical coal

At our renters' rights rally outside Parliament





GRANT OPPORTUNITIES

from your State MP

Although State MPs don't have direct influence over large discretionary grants like Councillors and Federal MPs, I allocate a portion of my office operations and support budget towards small community grants.

MAIWAR COMMUNITY SUPPORT GRANTS

Earlier this year I trialled a community grants program, and it was so successful that I've decided to run a second round! Community groups, clubs and organisations can apply for grants of up to \$1,500 for projects that will have a positive impact on the west side community. Applications close on Friday 29 October, so get in quick.

Scan here to apply

or visit my website



MICHAELBERKMAN.COM.AU/COMMUNITY_GRANTS



MAIWARRIORS



Abigail Okimoto with her \$500 Maiwarriors grant to have Lemonade Kids run a workshop on kindness, friendships and resilience for her Grade 5 class

My office started this program in 2018 to award grants of up to \$500 to school-aged kids for environmental sustainability or social justice projects in our local community. So far we've funded some amazing initiatives, like new street libraries, community gardens, recycling systems and clean energy projects. Applications can be made to my office anytime.

MICHAELBERKMAN.COM.AU/MAIWARRIORS

OTHER GRANTS AND FUNDING

There are a number of other grants available to assist local organisations, clubs, and individuals who are looking to provide a new service to the community, or need support to continue the work they're doing.

You can find a list of available grants on my website: MICHAELBERKMAN.COM.AU/GRANTS

If you're in Maiwar and want a letter of support for your application, please get in touch!

CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR RECENT GRANT WINNERS!



Our Maiwar Community Support Grant helped fund an all girls mini hoops program in Auchenflower by Brisbane Basketball



Students at Toowong State School set up this native bee home with their Maiwarriors grant



St Lucia Community Garden is thriving, and will be able to plant even more in their new raised garden beds purchased with a Maiwar Community Support Grant

LOCAL RESOURCES AND SUPPORT

For your fridge

EMERGENCY CONTACTS

Police, Fire and Ambulance.....	000
SES	
for flood or storm damage etc	132 500
13 HEALTH	
non-emergency medical help	13 43 25 84
Policelink	
non-emergency police contact	13 14 44
Brisbane City Council	
24/7 Service Centre	3403 8888

CONTACT MY OFFICE

📍	1/49 Station Road, Indooroopilly
☎	(07) 3737 4100
✉	maiwar@parliament.qld.gov.au
📘	facebook: michaelberkman.greens
📷	Instagram: @michael.berkman
🐦	Twitter: @mcberkman

COVID-19 HOTLINE..... 13 42 68

LEGAL SERVICES

Legal Aid Qld.....	1300 651 188
Caxton Legal Centre.....	3214 6333
LGBTI Legal Service.....	3124 7160
RAILS	
Refugee & Immigration.....	3846 9300
Women's Legal Service.....	1800 957 957
Disability Advocacy (QAI).....	3844 4200

CRISIS HOUSING

Homelessness Hotline.....	1800 474 753
Sherwood Neighbourhood Centre.....	3379 8316

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE & ABUSE

DV Connect	
Women's line	1800 811 811
Men's line	1800 600 636
Elder abuse helpline.....	1300 651 192
Sexual assault helpline.....	1800 010 120

SOCIAL HOUSING & RENTING

Housing Service Centre	
Fortitude Valley.....	3034 6500
Help for renters (QSTARS).....	1300 744 263
RTA.....	1300 366 311
Independent Civil Tribunal.....	1300 753228

MENTAL HEALTH SUPPORT

Mental Health Access Line	1300 642 255
Lifeline	
Call	13 11 14
Text (6pm - midnight).....	0477 13 11 14
LGBT+ support.....	1800 184 527
Kids Helpline	1800 55 1800

FOOD & OTHER ASSISTANCE

Community	3510 2700
Sherwood Neighbourhood Centre.....	3379 6963
Vinnies	1800 846 643
Red Cross Migration Hub	3367 7222

More info on my website: [MICHAELBERKMAN.COM/COMMUNITY_SUPPORT](https://michaelberkman.com/community_support)

MY OFFICE CAN HELP WITH:

- Advocacy and information on COVID-19 directions
- Emergency financial payments where other support is not available
- Printing newsletters, flyers, and posters
- Collecting plastic lids and printer cartridges for recycling
- Free meeting room and event equipment use (PA system, marquee, BBQ)
- Help promoting your group or event
- Raffle prize donations for community groups and schools



MICHAEL BERKMAN MP

Member for Maiwar

迈克尔是您当地的议员成员同样也是Maiwar在昆士兰州议会的声音。迈克尔的工作是为您效劳。

迈克尔和他的团队将竭力帮助您向州政府不同部门、住房、交通和发展等当地问题进行宣传，同时迈克尔也将支持您的社区活动。翻译可以安排。

Michael은 주 의회에서 귀하의 지역 하원 의원이자 마이워의 발언권을 갖고 있습니다. 여러분을 위해 일하는 것은 Michael의 일입니다.

Michael과 그의 팀은 귀하에 관한 정부 부서, 주택, 교통과 개발과 같은 지역 문제를 해결하거나, 또는 귀하의 지역 사회를 위해 지원하는 것을 도울 수 있습니다. 통역가가 준비될 수 있습니다.

Soy tu representante local, y la voz de Maiwar en el parlamento estatal. Mi responsabilidad es trabajar para ti.

Mi equipo y yo te podemos ayudar con trámites frente a departamentos del estado de Queensland, vivienda, asuntos locales incluyendo transporte, y apoyo a iniciativas comunitarias. Puedes acceder a un intérprete gratuito si prefieres.

Michael adalah anggota parlemen lokal anda dan merupakan suara atau perwakilan Maiwar di Parlemen Queensland. Adalah tugas Michael bekerja untuk anda.

Michael bersama timnya bisa membantu anda dengan pembelaan kepada departemen, yang berhubungan dengan perumahan masalah -masalah lokal seperti lalu lintas dan pengembangan atau dukungan dan inisiatif bekerja untuk / komunitas. Penerjemah bisa di atur jika di butuhkan.

मैं आपका स्थानीय संसद सदस्य और राज्य संसद में मैवार की आवाज़ हूँ। आपके लिए कार्य करना मेरा कर्तव्य है। मैं और मेरी टीम वभिन्न मुद्दों पर आपकी सहायता कर सकते हैं उदाहरणार्थ सरकारी वभिगों में आपकी वकालत, आवास, स्थानीय मुद्दे जैसे यातायात और वकिस या सामुदायिक पहल में सहायता प्रदान करना। भाषा अनुवादकों की व्यवस्था की जा सकती है।

UPCOMING EVENTS

I'd love to see you at one of the events I'm hosting in the coming months. Please RSVP via michaelberkman.com.au/events to receive updates about any COVID-19 changes and, as always, please stay home if you're sick.



15 OCT

Pop-up office: Bardon 11am-12pm
Bardon Thyme
5 Morgan Terrace, Bardon



2 NOV

Community Q&A Livestream 6-7pm
Facebook, Youtube & Twitter
See michaelberkman.com.au/events for links



8 DEC

Pop-up office: Indooroopilly 10-11am
Corner Cafe 26
26 Station Rd, Indooroopilly

Follow my Facebook page or sign up at michaelberkman.com.au/get_updates to receive local event updates.



2021 COMMUNITY SURVEY RESULTS

Thanks to everyone who completed the survey in my last newsletter! From hundreds of responses, here's what you said you want me to prioritise as your MP:

LOCAL PRIORITIES



Public transport: fixing traffic congestion, delivering better buses and making our train stations accessible



Green space: more street trees, parks and community gardens, and better vegetation protection laws



Lots of you also want to see safety upgrades to the Bardon roundabout, a public pool for Maiwar, more safe, separated bike lanes, and better planning laws to stop bad development.

I'll use your responses to guide my work in Parliament and in our local area.

BIG ISSUES



Invest in renewables, phase out coal & gas and protect our natural environment



Keep kids out of prisons and watch houses



Address the housing crisis



KEEP IN TOUCH!

I aim to respond to every local resident who contacts my office. We're open 9am-5pm Mon-Fri and you can raise an issue or set up a meeting via phone or email.

📍 1/49 Station Road, Indooroopilly

☎️ (07) 3737 4100

✉️ maiwar@parliament.qld.gov.au

📘 facebook.com/michaelberkman.greens

📷 Instagram: @michael.berkman

🐦 Twitter: @mcberkman

I send an e-newsletter every 2-3 weeks about local issues and events - scan this code to subscribe, or head to my website



MICHAELBERKMAN.COM.AU/GET_UPDATES



Our electorate office is on Yuggera and Turrbal land. We pay our respects to Aboriginal Elders past and present and acknowledge sovereignty was never ceded.