

**HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES TRANSPORT AND REGIONAL SERVICES COMMITTEE**

*J 13/4/06*

Public Hearings 5 and 6 April 2006

Ipswich is centrally located to services the freight needs of SEQ.

The City is on the confluence of the Warrego Highway, Cunningham Highway, Brisbane Valley Highway, the Logan Motorway and Ipswich Motorway.

The east west rail corridor currently accommodates all bulk extractive, agricultural and pastoral freight accessing the Port of Brisbane from the west of the State.

The City is extremely well placed to service the mechanical, maintenance and bulk container storage needs of the freight industry. Broad hectare storage and truck parking capability with significant separation to residential areas exists in the;

Ebenezer Willowbank Regional Business and Enterprise Estate accessed off the Cunningham Highway;

Swanbank New Chum Regional Business and Enterprise Estate accessed off the Cunningham Highway; with further accessed potential off the soon to be constructed extension to the Centenary Highway; and

Bremer Business Park accessed off the Warrego Highway.

The City is currently being investigated by the Coordinator Generals Department for an inland port facility at Purga. The site is being investigated for its potential as a rail/road modal split and freight break-down facility to service freight needs of SEQ and the Brisbane Port.

Further potential exists to combine air freight with road and rail via synergies with RAAF Base Amberley.

It should be recognised that the regionally significant location of the City's freight capacity will require appropriate Federal, State and Local government infrastructure to be fully actualised.