



Minister for Transport and Main Roads

Our ref: PET 33294

Your ref: A454787

2 JUL 2019

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Mr Neil Laurie
The Clerk of the Parliament
Parliament House
George Street
BRISBANE QLD 4000

Dear Mr Laurie

I refer to petitions 3148-19 and 3124-19 lodged with the Legislative Assembly by Mr Colin Boyce MP, Member for Callide on 11 June 2019 in regard to Gladstone–Monto Road.

In 2018, the Department of Transport and Main Roads (TMR) completed a \$700,000 project to widen a one-kilometre section of the Gladstone–Monto Road. This widening took place within the 4.5-kilometre section of single-lane bitumen surface mentioned in the petition, between Nagoorin and Ubobo.

I acknowledge that Gladstone–Monto Road connects Boyne Valley agricultural and tourism traffic between the Burnett Highway (Monto) and Dawson Highway (Calliope). Over the past two years, the Palaszczuk Government has delivered over \$2 million of upgrades and maintenance on Gladstone–Monto Road including:

- an amount of \$1.1 million on reconstruction of the Dawes Range on Gladstone–Monto Road, south of Many Peaks, funded through the natural disaster relief and recovery arrangements
- structure maintenance at Marble and Decalgil Creek
- routine maintenance grading in December 2018/January 2019, ahead of the 2019 school year
- vegetation clearing at structures and floodways completed in May 2019
- installation of additional guideposts and delineation on approaches to narrow bridges and floodways, completed in May 2019.

To ensure the condition of Gladstone–Monto Road is accessible for all road users, TMR and maintenance contractors (North Burnett Regional Council and Gladstone Regional Council) undertake monthly road inspections. Since February 2019, I can advise the 18-kilometre gravel section between Many Peaks and Kalpowar has been inspected more frequently following wet weather in the region.

Following an inspection on 5 April 2019, TMR identified the need for maintenance works on the gravel section between Many Peaks and Kalpowar. This included vegetation clearing and guidepost/delineation works which are now complete. Maintenance grading and gravel resheeting of the 18-kilometre section was also identified, with works commencing in May 2019 and completed in June 2019.

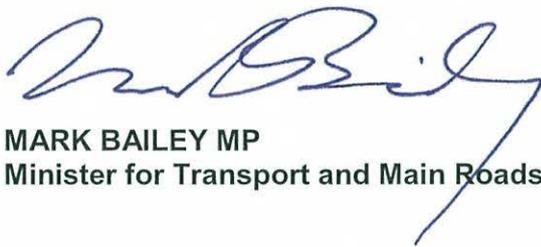
Regarding the school bus operations on Gladstone–Monto Road, between Builyan and Monto, I am advised that despite reports in local media, the bus service has continued to operate uninterrupted.

TMR will continue to undertake regular inspections to ensure the Gladstone–Monto Road remains in a safe condition and undertake maintenance repairs as a priority, in coordination with the local maintenance contractor.

While there is no funding identified in the *Queensland Transport and Roads Investment Program 2019–20 to 2022–23* for further widening or bitumen surfacing, TMR will continue to identify funding opportunities to undertake further upgrade works on the Gladstone–Monto Road in consultation with Gladstone Regional Council and North Burnett Regional Council.

I trust this information is of assistance.

Yours sincerely



MARK BAILEY MP
Minister for Transport and Main Roads