

## Minister for Transport and Main Roads

Our ref: PET 27115

Your ref: A334274

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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 petition numbers 2953-18 and 2942-18 lodged with the Legislative Assembly on 13 June 2018 raising concerns about lack of progress on construction of the North Brisbane Bikeway (NBB).

The Palaszczuk Government is committed to the vision of more cycling, more often and we are investing over \$67.5 million in 2018–19 and \$240 million in total over the next four years in active transport infrastructure and initiatives.

NBB is a joint project between the Queensland Government and Brisbane City Council (BCC), with a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) to work collaboratively on the project signed in late 2013.

Unfortunately, despite the MoU, delivery of the project has been significantly delayed by ongoing changes to the design at the request of BCC.

The Queensland Government is responsible for delivering sections of the NBB between Gilchrist Avenue, Herston and Price Streets, Wooloowin (Stages 1 to 4), with BCC responsible for delivery from Price Street to Kedron Brook (Stage 5).

The first two stages of NBB have already been delivered by the Queensland Government:

- Stage 1A, from Gilchrist Avenue at Herston through Bowen Park to O'Connell Terrace, Bowen Hills was opened in May 2015
- Stage 1B between Federation and Somerset Streets at Windsor was opened in September 2016.

The Palaszczuk Government has committed funding to complete the next stages of NBB from Windsor through to Kedron Brook. This includes:

- \$13.18 million for Stages 2 and 3 from Somerset Street, Windsor to Rigby Street, Wooloowin – Department of Transport and Main Roads (TMR) delivery
- \$4 million for Stage 4 between Rigby and Price Streets, Wooloowin TMR delivery
- \$1.316 million in grants for Stage 5 from Price Street, Wooloowin to Kedron Brook BCC delivery.

TMR has completed the detailed design of Stages 2 and 3 and is awaiting final BCC approval of the designs so that construction may proceed. This is necessary as the facility is being constructed on the local road network and ownership of the facility will be transferred to BCC following construction. Once BCC has approved the detailed design, TMR will proceed quickly with tender and construction.

The design of Stage 4 will commence once BCC approval for the design of Stages 2 and 3 is received. The delivery of Stage 5 has been placed on hold by BCC. I have written to Councillor Adrian Schrinner, Deputy Mayor and Chairman of the Public and Active Transport Committee, to express my disappointment with this decision.

The Palaszczuk Government has announced joint construction funding for Stage 5 and I am of the view that the design, and subsequent construction of this stage, should proceed as a matter of urgency and I will continue to seek this outcome.

Once complete, residents on the north side of Brisbane will be able to ride on a safe, physically separated path from Kedron Brook through to the edge of Brisbane's Central Business District. I have no doubt that NBB will be transformational, enabling many more people to enjoy an active, safe, efficient and healthy journey to work.

I thank the petitioners for their interest in NBB and their continued strong support for its timely delivery.

Yours sincerely

MARK BAILEY MP Minister for Transport and Main Roads