

## Minister for Transport and Main Roads

Our ref: PET 40095 Your ref: A657637

19 March 2021

Mr Neil Laurie The Clerk of the Parliament Parliament House George Street BRISBANE QLD 4000 1 William Street Brisbane 4000 GPO Box 2644 Brisbane Queensland 4001 Australia Telephone +617 3719 7300

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Dear Mr Laurie

I refer to petitions 3479-21 and 3462-21 lodged with the Legislative Assembly by Dr Mark Robinson MP, Member for Oodgeroo on 23 February 2021 about stopping the demolition of the Harold Walker Jetty on Stradbroke Island.

Since 2012, the jetty has been managed by Redland City Council (RCC), with the RCC appointed facility manager under the Transport Infrastructure (Public Marine Facilities) Regulation 2011. RCC's maintenance obligations under that regulation are clear, with state funding available to support any maintenance works undertaken by RCC.

Despite this, I am advised that the only repairs undertaken by RCC—which the Department of Transport and Main Roads (TMR) is aware of—are some minor works undertaken in 2016, that involved replacement of some jetty steps, hardwood decking planks and damaged rubber matting. I am advised that RCC's lack of maintenance has led to the jetty's current dilapidated condition and, therefore, the need to demolish the jetty. This has meant locals missing out on use of the jetty and has also meant that taxpayer funded investment in infrastructure has been wasted.

I am also advised that officers from RCC and TMR have long been engaging in discussions regarding the unsafe condition of the jetty, which has been closed to the public since June 2020. I previously offered to partner with RCC on a 50:50 funding arrangement to deliver a replacement for the jetty, however RCC advised it would only consider this after the full Goompi Master Plan was finalised.

Regarding the draft master planning, TMR will continue to liaise with all stakeholders under the leadership of the Department of State Development, Infrastructure, Local Government and Planning, however—based on advice that there is no necessary link between the Goompi Master Plan and the jetty—I do not see why the replacement of the jetty should be delayed.

I know how important this jetty was to the community, as do my local colleagues, Ms Kim Richards MP, Member for Redlands and Mr Don Brown MP, Member for Capalaba who presented concerns on behalf of the community. I can therefore advise that the state will commit \$750,000 to fund a replacement of the jetty and will consult with the community on that replacement.

The usual arrangements in terms of maintenance of the new replacement structure will apply—that is, RCC will be required to take on responsibility for maintenance, with maintenance work to be funded by the state.

I have asked TMR to establish a new process of ongoing audits of maintenance work to ensure the new structure does not fall into disrepair. I also encourage RCC to ensure locals are involved in that state-funded maintenance work moving forward, to help build capacity on Minjerribah.

I am pleased that my Director-General and the Chief Executive Officer of RCC have had some discussions on this matter—that I understand have been productive—and encourage that collaboration to continue.

I look forward to hearing the ideas the local community puts forward, and to TMR and RCC working together to ensure that residents can continue to have access to fishing amenities in Dunwich into the future.

I trust this information is of assistance.

Yours sincerely

**MARK BAILEY MP** 

Minister for Transport and Main Roads