



The Honourable Scott Emerson MP
Minister for Transport and Main Roads

Our ref: PET 11038

Your ref: Petitions

13 JUN 2013

Mr Neil Laurie
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Dear Mr Laurie *Neil*

I refer to a petition number 2115-13 lodged with the Legislative Assembly by Ms Annastacia Palaszczuk MP, Member for Inala on 21 May 2013 about the Sumners Road Interchange project.

As previously advised in my response to petition number 1986-12, in 2011 the Department of Transport and Main Roads (TMR) released a preferred option for the Sumners Road interchange upgrade and detailed design plans were underway in early 2012.

Preliminary works were originally expected to commence in the 2013-14 financial year with construction scheduled to commence the following financial year.

Unfortunately, due to an urgent need to reduce government expenditure and debt, TMR was required to review its program of works and determined the Sumners Road interchange upgrade would have to be deferred.

When placed in the context of the damage across the state caused by numerous wet weather events and other critical needs, TMR advises that funding for the Sumners Road interchange upgrade, although very important, cannot be justified at this time.

I acknowledge the deferment of this project is extremely frustrating for motorists, particularly those who regularly travel through the interchange in peak hour traffic.

TMR has investigated and implemented short-term improvements to ease congestion in the area and continues to monitor traffic on Sumners Road.

Please be assured funding for this project will be considered for the 2014-2015 financial year.

Yours sincerely

Scott Emerson MP
Minister for Transport and Main Roads