

Hon Annastacia Palaszczuk MP Member for Inala

Our ref: PP1649-11 / PP1686-11

Your ref: Petitions

0 9 JUN 2011

Mr Neil Laurie The Clerk of the Parliament Parliament House George Street Brisbane Qld 4000



Minister for Transport and Multicultural Affairs

Dear Mr Laurie Well

I refer to petition numbers 1649-11 and 1686-11 lodged with the Legislative Assembly by Mr Jarrod Bleijie MP, Member for Kawana on 17 March and 24 May 2011, about the Claymore Road off-road cycle project.

As part of the South East Queensland Infrastructure Plan and Program 2010-2031, the Queensland Government has committed \$600 million to accelerate the development of the regional cycle network.

The Cycle Network Program, managed by the Department of Transport and Main Roads, distributes South East Queensland Infrastructure Plan and Program funds to local governments on a 50/50 basis to deliver a range of cycle facilities, including on- and off-road cycle pathways, bridges and underpasses, end of trip facilities, directional and route signage, data counters and improved lighting.

On an annual basis, the department invites south east Queensland local councils to submit project applications for funding under the Cycle Network Program. I am advised that Sunshine Coast Regional Council actively participates in the process and submits a number of projects for funding consideration each year.

The department has advised, since 2006, the Cycle Network Program has approved nearly \$10 million worth of funding within the Sunshine Coast region, \$1.5 million of which has been for projects in the Kawana Electorate. Included in this funding is \$55 000 for the design of cycle facilities on Claymore Road, Sippy Downs.

I am further advised that council originally submitted the Claymore Road construction project funding application in 2010-11. Through the assessment process it was determined the proposed project design failed to meet minimum off-road cycleway width standards and unfortunately could not be considered further. I am also advised that potential upgrades to Claymore Road presented the risk of possible future removal of the bikeway.

However, the department recognised the local significance of the project and recommended to council that it resubmit the project for 2011-12 funding consideration. Since that recommendation, the department has advised it has been collaboratively working with council regarding the project scope and that an application has been resubmitted.

The technical assessment and panel review of projects submitted for funding consideration under the 2011-12 grants program is nearing completion and councils will be notified of successful submissions within the next month.

Yours sincerely

Annastacia Palaszczuk MP

Minister for Transport and Multicultural Affairs