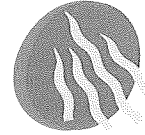




Hon Craig Wallace MP
Member for Thuringowa



**Queensland
Government**

Minister for Main Roads

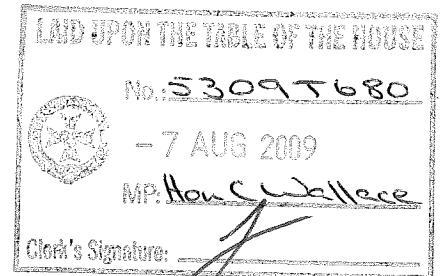
Our ref: MC38233

Your ref: Petitions

06 AUG 2009

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

Dear Mr *Neil* Laurie



I refer to a petition number 1240-09 lodged with the Legislative Assembly by Miss Fiona Simpson MP, Member for Maroochydore, on 2 June 2009 about a request for an extra access point to River Gardens and Casino Village Caravan Parks from Nerang-Broadbeach Road.

As part of the government's commitment towards 'Better Roads for the Gold Coast', the Department of Transport and Main Roads progressively upgraded Nerang-Broadbeach Road to a four-lane, median-divided standard. This \$41.5m upgrade was essential to improve traffic capacity and safety, as well as to cater for future traffic growth.

Extensive consultation occurred as part of the planning for this upgrade. Key stakeholders consulted included the Emergency Services, which raised no objections to the proposed caravan park access arrangements, the Carrara Residents Assistance Group, Carrara Residents Association and Carrara Residents Council. At public meetings held, the department received considerable support for the project, which included service road and bus lane concepts.

The department investigated residents' concerns about access arrangements to the caravan parks. Further to this, a review of the access to the west end of the service road near the caravan park was undertaken. This access is limited to buses entering by way of the Ross Street intersection only. The review concluded that the timing of the signals at this intersection is complex and could not safely allow vehicles other than buses to use the current facility.

Dedicated bus lanes have been designed and installed to improve traffic efficiency and safety on Nerang-Broadbeach Road. These lanes are necessary to meet the demands of traffic growth.

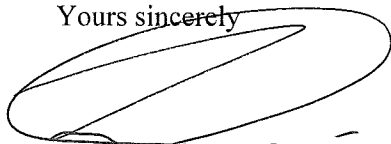
Local residents can currently access Nerang-Broadbeach Road by way of the Garden Grove intersection, approximately 1.2km east of the caravan parks.

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Residents also requested an access to the service road closer to the Ross Street intersection. Departmental officers further investigated the possibility of a left turn-in only from the eastbound lanes of Nerang-Broadbeach Road, roughly mid-way between the Ross Street and the Garden Grove intersections. However, such a lane could not be provided within the existing road corridor without significantly impacting on private property and public utility. It was therefore not possible to provide this proposed access as the department did not consider it reasonable to resume the required property and relocate the services for the benefits that would be achieved.

I trust this information is of assistance.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Craig Wallace', written over a horizontal line.

Craig Wallace MP
Minister for Main Roads