

Hon Craig Wallace MP Member for Thuringowa



Minister for Main Roads, Fisheries and Marine Infrastructure

Our ref: PP1755-11 & PP1717-11

Your ref: Petitions

1 9 SEP 2011

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

Dear Mr Laurie

I refer to a petition number 1755-11 & 1717-11 lodged with the Legislative Assembly by Ms Peta-Kaye Croft MP, Member for Broadwater on 24 August 2011 about School zone road marking and signage at Coombabah State School.

I can assure you that the state government takes the safety of school children very seriously and therefore school safety policies are designed to create a safe environment for all children travelling to and from school.

I am advised that school zones in Queensland are established in accordance with guidelines in the department's Manual of Uniform Traffic Control Devices (MUTCD). The MUTCD also provides guidelines for signage around schools and within school zones.

I am further advised that the department has recently completed a trial of enhanced school zone speed limit signs with flashing lights at several school zone sites on statecontrolled roads in Queensland. The results of this trial are currently being reviewed and recommendations will be made in due course.

Departmental officers further advise that Coombabah State School is clearly visible from Oxley Drive and is well known. In addition, the signage advising of the approach to the school, is in accordance with the current guidelines of the MUTCD, and is further supplemented by threshold pavement marking. Under these guidelines, school zones extend along the frontage of the school, and must not extend more than 100 metres in either direction. This includes school zone signage.

Level 13 Mineral House 41 George Street Brisbane 4000 PO Box 15456 City East Queensland 4002 Australia **Telephone +61 7 3896 3691** Facsimile +61 7 3210 6214 Email mainroads@ministerial.qld.gov.au ABN 65 959 415 158 I am advised that there are pedestrian activated traffic signals at the front of Coombabah State School located on Oxley Drive and also at the intersection of Oxley Drive and Turana Street. In accordance with the MUTCD, School Crossing Supervisors have no authority to use their STOP sign at traffic signals as signals are regarded as a higher order traffic and pedestrian management device. In these instances School Crossing Supervisors can only act in an advisory capacity and do not have authorisation to control pedestrians.

In addition, my department has been working with Coombabah State School regarding road safety issues over a lengthy period. Road safety around schools is constantly being monitored. Road Safety staff work closely with school personnel and when road safety issues arise, the school community is encouraged to form a SafeST committee to ensure all road safety issues around that school are addressed in a collegiate manner.

I trust this information is of assistance.

Yours sincerely

Craig Wallace MP Minister for Main Roads, Fisheries and Marine Infrastructure