



Minister for Transport and Main Roads

Our ref: PET 2839-17_Final

Your ref: 10.4 Petitions

2 JAN 2018

Mr Neil Laurie
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Dear Mr Laurie

I refer to my interim response to petition number 2839-17 about a new boat ramp at Rocky Point, Russell Island that was tabled on 10 November 2017.

As you would know, I have since been appointed as Minister for Transport and Main Roads and now provide a final response to the petition.

The Palaszczuk Government's boating infrastructure program focuses on recreational facilities. The criteria used in the selection of recreational investment projects is available on my department's website at www.tmr.qld.gov.au by clicking on (1) 'Projects', (2) the letter 'R' under 'Projects by name' and (3) 'Recreational boating facilities'. In particular, there is a vision to provide a boat launching facility within one hour's drive of significant population centres in coastal Queensland. For Russell Island, this has been achieved with boat ramps at Wahine Drive, and Jock Kennedy Park.

The suggestion of a new boat ramp on Russell Island will be taken into account in determining future years' programs of work. I am advised that the southern Redlands area has been the focus of discussion for several years between my department and Redland City Council (RCC), and that the recent demand forecasting study, available via the same website, makes recommendations for joint consideration by RCC and my department.

Any project on Russell Island would necessarily be a joint endeavour between RCC, my department and, if the barge ramp is upgraded for emergency services operations, the Queensland Fire and Rescue Service.

In regard to southern Russell Island, I am advised that the sandy beach on The Boulevard at the south-east side of the island is similarly popular to Rocky Point, and may be deserving of investigation for a recreational facility. I have requested officers from my department to obtain more detailed hydrographic survey information at both sites to allow a feasibility investigation to proceed.

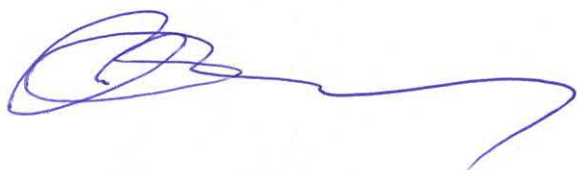
Different ramp designs each have different potential costs, with the need to import quarry rock being the largest variable. The reclamation of mangroves to cater for the required 45 car-trailer parking bays also presents a significant issue. A detailed hydrographic survey (and later seabed sampling) will provide a greater insight, and allow for further future planning to be made for joint consideration between RCC and my department.

I'd like to take this opportunity to also thank the petitioners for their interest in this important issue for their local community.

In accordance with s 59A of the *Parliament of Queensland Act 2001* and Standing Order 31, I request that this final response be tabled during the period that the Legislative Assembly is dissolved.

I trust this information is of assistance.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, consisting of a series of loops and a long horizontal stroke that tapers to a point on the right.

MARK BAILEY MP
Minister for Transport and Main Roads