



Warren Pitt MP
Member for Mulgrave



**Queensland
Government**

Our ref: MC33489_MC33487

**Minister for Main Roads and
Local Government**

Your ref: 924-07

19 DEC 2007

Mr Neil Laurie
The Clerk of the Parliament
Parliament House
Cnr Alice and George Streets
Brisbane Qld 4000

Dear Mr Laurie

I refer to petition No. 924-07 lodged with the Legislative Assembly by Mr Peter Wellington MP, Member for Nicklin, on 11 October 2007, about the condition of Eumundi - Kenilworth Road.

The Department of Main Roads has been progressively upgrading Eumundi - Kenilworth Road over the past 10 years, and has included funding for the replacement of bridges at Belli Creek Crossing No. 1 and No. 3 and Eerwah Creek.

The Queensland Government is continuing to invest in this important link road allocating a further \$15.4m to upgrade sections of this road. These improvement works will include:

- \$10.4m to replace the narrow bridge and road approaches at Belli Creek Crossing No. 2, commencing in mid-2008
- \$5m indicative forward allocation for the period 2009-10 to 2011-12 for widening and resurfacing work on a 1.3km section between Archer Road and Belli Creek Crossing No. 1.

I am advised that on 22 May 2007, the Honourable Paul Lucas MP, formerly Minister for Transport and Main Roads, met with Mr Peter Wellington MP, Member for Nicklin, and Main Roads' representatives, to discuss the condition of Eumundi - Kenilworth Road. Topics discussed included community concern about quarry trucks contributing to the rapid deterioration of the surface, the need to bring forward rehabilitation works and issues raised in relation to safety due to the narrow width and winding alignment of the road.

I am further advised that Sunshine Coast Quarries Pty Ltd, situated on Moy Pocket Road, is a major supplier for the current boom in coastal development. The quarry is supplying Main Roads' contractors, who are working on the Caloundra Road, Maroochydore Road and Sunshine Motorway road upgrade projects, as well as a range of other construction developments on the coast.

Following these discussions, Minister Lucas announced the allocation of an additional \$1.5m for extra maintenance work on Eumundi - Kenilworth Road. This commitment addressed and acknowledged community and road user concerns about the safety of Eumundi - Kenilworth Road.

Main Roads advises that these safety initiatives commenced in August 2007, including:

- clearing of roadside vegetation to improve visibility for road users
- improved drainage
- shoulder widening
- resurfacing works to improve rideability.

Main Roads further advises that Main Roads conducted a review of the speed limit on Eumundi - Kenilworth Road. Following this review, Main Roads recommended the application of a trial speed reduction to 80km/h over the 3km Belli Range section, from Archer Road to Browns Creek Road. This recommendation was approved by the Maroochy Speed Management Committee and took effect from 3 August 2007.

I am advised the review also confirmed that the existing speed limit of 100km/h along the remaining section of Eumundi - Kenilworth Road will be maintained, with the 80km/h speed restriction applied on school days during bus operating times, from 7:30am to 9:30am and 3:00pm to 4:30pm over the sections of road yet to be upgraded.

The petition also requests an increase in Queensland Police Service presence on Eumundi - Kenilworth Road. As this matter falls under the jurisdiction of the Honourable Judy Spence MP, Minister for Police, Corrective Services and Sport, I have forwarded a copy of the petition to her office for consideration and direct reply.

Yours sincerely

**Warren Pitt MP
Minister for Main Roads**



Judy Spence MP

Member for Mount Gravatt

LAID UPON THE TABLE OF THE HOUSE	
No.: 5208 T 3426	
	7 MAY 2008
M. Hon J. Spence	
Clerk's Signature:	



Queensland
Government

Ref: 8583 F2 LS

Office of the
**Minister for Police and
Corrective Services**

30 APR 2008

Mr Neil Laurie
The Clerk of the Parliament
Queensland Parliamentary Service
Parliament House
George Street
BRISBANE QLD 4000

Dear Mr Laurie

I am writing to provide my response to petition number 924-07 which was lodged by Mr Peter Wellington MP, Member for Nicklin, and received by the Legislative Assembly on 11 October 2007.

The petition seeks increased police patrols of Eumundi-Kenilworth Road focusing on speeding vehicles and tailgating offences, and the installation of a fixed speed camera.

I have received the following information from the Queensland Police Service in response to the issues raised.

Police from the Sunshine Coast District Traffic Branch, Eumundi, Imbil and Kenilworth Stations perform regular speed enforcement duties to detect and deter speeding and other traffic offences on the Eumundi-Kenilworth Road. The Police Service operates a mix of both marked and unmarked vehicles for purposes of traffic enforcement. Unmarked police vehicles are deployed throughout Queensland, generally as part of district traffic branches, to assist in heightening both the specific and general deterrence effect associated with traffic enforcement.

The detection rate of speeding offences pertaining to trucks on the Eumundi-Kenilworth Road is very low, with only one truck detected speeding during the past 12 months. The vast majority of speeding infringement notices were issued to car drivers.

Two truck related crashes on the Eumundi-Kenilworth Road have been reported to police over the 12 month period commencing 31 January 2007. One of these was a fatal crash and the other a non-injury accident. The police advise that the truck drivers involved in these particular incidents were not considered at fault.

In the same 12 month period, two single vehicle traffic crashes on this road were reported to police. In both cases the vehicles struck animals and the drivers suffered injuries.

The offence of 'tailgating' is provided for under section 126 'Keeping a safe distance behind vehicles' of the *Transport Operations (Road Use Management – Road Rules) Regulation 1999* which states:

A driver must drive a sufficient distance behind a vehicle travelling in front of the driver so the driver can, if necessary, stop safely to avoid a collision with the vehicle.

The Police Service recognises the anxiety and frustration experienced by drivers who are 'tailgated', and the dangers associated with this type of behaviour. The police actively enforce this provision both as part of routine traffic patrols and through special operations targeting particular types of offences and localities.

Following a review of traffic offence penalties, the penalty for this offence was increased on 1 March 2007 from \$30 and one demerit point to \$175 and one demerit point.

The identification of an offence under section 126 requires an assessment of whether the follow distance is safe in the circumstances. This involves consideration of factors such as the speed and volume of traffic, the road and weather conditions, visibility at the time, and the types of vehicles involved.

In order to assist the police in enforcing this offence provision, the Police Service has recently acquired equipment which can accurately measure distances between travelling vehicles. This equipment will enhance the capability of the police to detect and take appropriate action in regard to this offence.

The Police Service will continue to monitor emerging technologies for detecting 'tailgating' with a view to assessing their potential for future use in Queensland.

In regard to the request for the installation of a fixed speed camera, I can advise that the operation of speed cameras is a proven road safety strategy. The installation of the initial three fixed cameras has already occurred and I am pleased to advise further fixed cameras will be installed in more locations across the State in due course.

The selection of suitable sites for the installation of fixed speed cameras is dependent upon a number of factors, including road trauma history. Fixed speed cameras have been installed in locations with an identified speed crash history and where it is difficult for police to conduct enforcement.

The Fixed Speed Camera Project team will consider the site nominated as part of the strategic implementation process.

Our Government remains firmly committed to reducing the road trauma on our roads through the implementation of innovative road safety strategies and initiatives.

The Queensland Police Service is also strongly committed to keeping the roads safer for all road users and will continue to perform enforcement patrols of the Eumundi-Kenilworth Road.

Superintendent Ben Hanbridge, District Officer, Sunshine Coast Police District is available on telephone 5475 2401 for any further assistance required.

The petition also requests the completion of upgrading work to the Eumundi-Kenilworth Road. I note this issue has been addressed by the Honourable Warren Pitt MP, Minister for Main Roads and Local Government.

I trust this information is of assistance.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Judy Spence".

Judy Spence MP
Minister for Police, Corrective Services and Sport