

## Minister for Main Roads, Road Safety and Ports

Our ref: PET 22850

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Your ref: 10.4 Petitions

6 SEP 2017

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

Dear Mr Laurie

I refer to petitions number 2748-17 and 2794-17 lodged with the Legislative Assembly by Mr Jim Madden MP, Member for Ipswich West on 8 August 2017 about the Warrego Highway and Mount Crosby Road interchange.

The Department of Transport and Main Roads (TMR) acknowledges the concerns raised by petitioners, as well as similar concerns raised by Mr Madden and Councillor Wayne Wendt, Councillor for Division 5, Ipswich City Council.

In July 2017, TMR completed investigations into traffic congestion and active transport issues at the interchange, resulting in a business case for an interim upgrade.

The proposed interim upgrade includes duplication of the lanes on the southern roundabout, a bypass lane to the northern roundabout, and closing access to Coal Road from the northern roundabout.

Funding to progress the project further will now be subject to competing priorities across the State. Unfortunately that competition has become more challenging as a consequence of more than \$600 million having been cut from transport funding during the term of the previous LNP government, which also spent more than \$30 million of the Department of Transport and Main Roads' budget preparing for asset sales and contestability.

I trust this information is of assistance, and I thank the petitioners for their interest in this important issue.

Yours sincerely

DR STEVEN MILES MP Acting Minister for Main Roads, Road Safety and Ports