



Minister for Main Roads, Road Safety and Ports
Minister for Energy and Water Supply

Our ref: PET 14161

Your ref: 10.4 Petitions

- 2 JUN 2015

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

Level 15 Capital Hill Building
85 George Street Brisbane 4000
GPO Box 2644 Brisbane
Queensland 4001 Australia
Telephone +61 7 3749 7300
Facsimile +61 7 3224 2493
Email mainroads@ministerial.qld.gov.au
Website www.tmr.qld.gov.au

Dear Mr Laurie

I refer to petition number 2382-15 lodged with the Legislative Assembly on 5 May 2015 about upgrading the Brisbane Valley Highway from the Geoff Fisher Bridge, Wivenhoe Pocket, through the town of Fernvale to the Blacksoil Interchange.

The Brisbane Valley Highway is an important part of the state road network. I appreciate the concerns of the various communities and motorists who travel along it each day. I am pleased to advise that plans are underway for various rehabilitation activities on this stretch of road over the coming months.

A \$1.65 million pavement rehabilitation upgrade began on Monday 18 May 2015, to rehabilitate a 700m section of the Brisbane Valley Highway. The works will begin 500m north of Fernvale and extend to 150m north of Wivenhoe Pocket Road. Works include the removal of the existing asphalt pavement and the construction of a new asphalt pavement. This will provide important road safety benefits for motorists, while helping reduce future maintenance costs.

While works were being organised, "rough surface" signs were installed to advise motorists of road conditions, and the speed limit lowered to 80km/h in the northbound direction before the curved approach to the bridge and in the southbound direction just prior to the bridge.

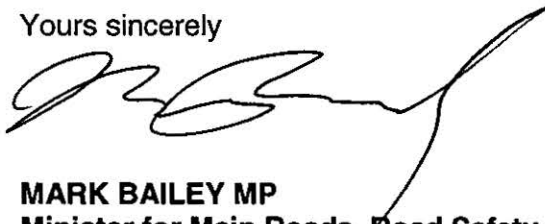
Additional pavement rehabilitation on the Brisbane Valley Highway is also planned to take place around September 2015. The sections to be resurfaced include the section between Sandy Creek and Old Brisbane Valley Rail Trail, and a further section between Old Brisbane Valley Rail Trail and Molkers Road. Designs are currently being finalised and should be complete within the coming weeks.

In the Metropolitan District, the \$93.4 million Brisbane Valley Highway and Warrego Highway intersection upgrade was designed to improve safety and increase the capacity of the intersection at Blacksoil well into the future. By grade separating the major traffic movements at the intersection, the new interchange improves safety, eases congestion and speeds up freight movements along this vital freight link. Improved safety for pedestrians and cyclists is also achieved, as they will be able to cross over the Warrego Highway via a dedicated shared pathway.

Most of the work for the intersection upgrade has been finished, allowing the operating speed on the Warrego Highway to be raised to 100km/h. Prior to this, the Tom Fountain overpass was opened to enable a safer cross-motorway connection and the associated on and off ramps for westbound traffic have become operational. However, there are still some additional safety works being undertaken around the intersection just south of the Tom Fountain Overpass which will affect the Brisbane Valley Highway and the Warrego Highway eastbound on and off ramps.

I wish to commend the community for your representation regarding the Brisbane Valley Highway and provide an assurance that my department will continue to monitor this important part of the network.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Mark Bailey', with a long, sweeping flourish extending to the right.

MARK BAILEY MP
Minister for Main Roads, Road Safety and Ports and
Minister for Energy and Water Supply