



Hon. Paul Lucas MP



Queensland
Government

Our ref: MC30534; MC30395

Your ref: 824-07 and 844-07

Minister for
Transport and Main Roads

10 JUL 2007

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

Dear Mr Laurie

Re: Petition No: 824-07 and 844-07 - Eumundi-Kenilworth Road

I refer to petitions lodged with the Legislative Assembly by Mr Peter Wellington MP, Member for Nicklin, about the condition of Eumundi - Kenilworth Road.

The Sunshine Coast is one of Australia's fastest growing regions attracting new residents and tourists each year. Around 300 000 people now live and work in the region.

Continued economic and population growth is placing increased pressure on the region's transport infrastructure. That is why the Beattie government is making a major investment into Sunshine Coast road projects.

Sunshine Coast road funding has increased from \$50m ten years ago, to \$280m in the current financial year. This increased expenditure will help meet the region's growing infrastructure needs.

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

The state is continuing to invest in this important link road with the Department of Main Roads forward program allocating a further \$15.4m to upgrade sections of this road. These improvement works will include replacement of the narrow bridge and road approaches at Belli Creek Crossing No. 2 in mid-2008 and widening and resurfacing work between Archer Road and Belli Creek Crossing No. 1 following in mid-2009.

85 George Street Brisbane
GPO Box 2644 Brisbane
Queensland 4001 Australia
Telephone +61 7 3237 1111
Facsimile +61 7 3224 4242
Email transport@ministerial.qld.gov.au

On 22 May 2007 Mr Wellington and I met with representatives from Main Roads to discuss the condition of Eumundi - Kenilworth Road. In particular, community concern about quarry trucks contributing to the deterioration of the surface, the need to bring forward rehabilitation works and issues raised in relation to the narrow width and winding alignment of the road.

Main Roads will continue to maintain the surface of Eumundi - Kenilworth Road in a safe condition. The department spent about \$550 000 in the 2006-07 financial year in road maintenance, which has been primarily directed towards pothole patching and small pavement patches.

The department has allocated an additional \$1.5m towards a large scale maintenance program, to carry out short-term safety improvements on Eumundi - Kenilworth Road. This increase in routine maintenance will keep the road in a safe condition until major upgrading works are complete. As part of the program, Main Roads will investigate opportunities for cost effective rehabilitation treatments and shoulder widening. The program is expected to commence in the next few months and will take place through until December 2007, weather permitting.

Main Roads will also carry out improvements to the road delineation and route signage in early 2008, at a cost of \$290 000 as part of the Safer Roads Sooner Program.

I can advise that Main Roads is completing a speed limit review of Eumundi - Kenilworth Road. The findings of this review will be presented at the Maroochy Speed Management Committee meeting on 17 July 2007.

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

Yours sincerely

PAUL LUCAS MP

Minister for Transport and Main Roads