



Our ref: MC50038

Office of the
Minister for Main Roads

Your ref: Petitions

- 5 JUL 2010

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

Dear  Mr Laurie

I refer to a petition number 1471-10 lodged with the Legislative Assembly by Mr Curtis Pitt MP, Member for Mulgrave on 9 June 2010, requesting an upgrade of Bruce Highway (River Avenue) and Innisfail-Japoon Road, between the Innisfail Information Centre and Paronella Park.

The Australian Government is responsible for funding the upgrade and maintenance of the National Network, which includes the section of Bruce Highway south of Innisfail, known locally as River Avenue. The Queensland Government is responsible for funding the upgrade and maintenance of Innisfail-Japoon Road.

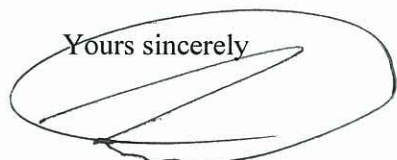
Safety of all road users is a priority for the Department of Transport and Main Roads. The department has advised it is delivering projects to improve safety for the travelling tourists, transport operators and road users in the vicinity of Paronella Park.

The department has further advised that work to rehabilitate and widen the bitumen on sections of Innisfail-Japoon Road between Juhas Road and Germantown, north of Paronella Park was completed in late May 2010. I am advised that work to widen the section from McDonald Road to Bombeeta Creek, south of Paronella Park, is planned for the 2010-11 financial year.

The department has also advised that it is carrying out design work for the eventual widening and rehabilitation of Innisfail-Japoon Road from River Avenue intersection to the airport turn-off. However, there is no funding for this project in the current program and as such there is no timeframe for construction.

I trust this information is of assistance.

Yours sincerely



Craig Wallace MP
Minister for Main Roads