



Hon Craig Wallace MP
Member for Thuringowa



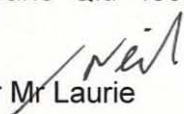
**Queensland
Government**

Our ref: PP1653-11

**Minister for Main Roads, Fisheries
and Marine Infrastructure**

27 APR 2011

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


Dear Mr Laurie

I refer to a petition number 1653-11 lodged with the Legislative Assembly by the Mr Peter Dowling MP, Member for Redlands on 22 March 2011, to the Honourable Annastacia Palaszczuk MP, Minister for Transport and Multicultural Affairs, about access from Victoria Point to Coochiemudlo Island in all tidal conditions. Your petition was referred to my office for consideration and response.

I can confirm I recently sent a letter to the Mayor of Redland City Council. The purpose of the letter is to offer state assistance in the form of funding to upgrade two key ferry passenger transport terminals in the Redlands area and to offer grant funding to assist council with dredging for passenger ferry and barge access to Toondah Harbour and Victoria Point.

I am advised that the Department of Transport and Main Roads has offered to contribute half of the estimated cost to replace the council-owned Coochiemudlo Island ferry terminal and has offered to fund in full the upgrade of the Victoria Point jetty. This \$4.25 million is on top of the department's full funding of the recently completed recreational/passenger ferry pontoon at One Mile.

This program of works will provide three modern, fully accessible ferry terminals with low maintenance costs to improve the level of access and amenity for residents and visitors to these two key island destinations in the Redlands area.

Further to the offer of assistance for ferry infrastructure, the department has offered \$6 million grant funding to assist council with dredging for passenger ferry and barge access to Toondah Harbour and Victoria Point.

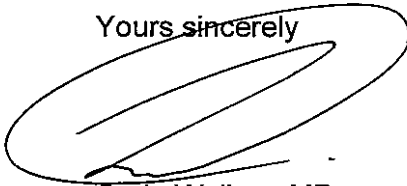
The state's expectation is that council would carry out the dredging for commercial access and arrange some contribution from ferry and barge operators, in addition to a moderate council contribution, to ensure that channels of adequate depth and width are dredged.

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If council agrees to the state's offer of grant funding then the dredging works can be planned this financial year and commence in 2011-12.

If council responds favourably to the state's offer of assistance then residents of Coochiemudlo Island can expect an upgraded ferry terminal and improved access to travel to and from the island.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Craig Wallace', enclosed within a large, hand-drawn oval.

Craig Wallace MP
**Minister for Main Roads, Fisheries
and Marine Infrastructure**