



**Queensland
Government**

Our ref: PP1663-11, 1664-11 and 1665-11

Your ref: Petitions

Office of the
**Minister for Main Roads, Fisheries
and Marine Infrastructure**

05 MAY 2011

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

Dear Mr Laurie 

I refer to petition numbers 1663-11, 1664-11 and 1665-11 lodged with the Legislative Assembly by Mr Jason O'Brien MP, Member for Cook on 6 April 2011 about a request to bitumen seal the 13km unsealed section of the Endeavour Valley Road.

Funding for road maintenance and upgrades is distributed across Queensland to meet the most urgent safety needs on the 34 000km of state-controlled roads. The Department of Transport and Main Roads appreciates the importance of local roads to rural communities and is continuing to upgrade sections of the state-controlled road network in Queensland's far north on a priority basis.

In mid-2010, the department completed construction of the new bridge over the Endeavour River. This \$15 million project has significantly improved flood immunity on Endeavour Valley Road and accessibility to surrounding communities during the wet season. Improvements to the approaches and road surface at Legget's Crossing were completed in September 2010.

Representatives from the department welcomed the opportunity to meet with local residents in September 2010 to discuss the condition of Endeavour Valley Road. As a result of this meeting, the department installed additional signage on the school bus route to raise driver awareness and improve safety for students. The department also upgraded signage at intersections on the road to improve safety for road users.

Routine maintenance of the 13km unsealed section of Endeavour Valley Road is conducted on the department's behalf by RoadTek Asset Services. RoadTek maintenance crews regularly patrol the road and repair damage to the road surface as required, in accordance with departmental safety guidelines.

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RoadTek performs up to four gradings on Endeavour Valley Road every year as part of the department's ongoing maintenance program. Gradings were carried out in September and November 2010 prior to the start of the traditional wet season. Some dry weather in mid April 2011 allowed two RoadTek crews to carry out a maintenance grade on Endeavour Valley Road. This included the removal of potholes, which has improved current conditions for motorists. There is further maintenance work scheduled to take place at Legget's Crossing when weather conditions further improve. A formation heavy grade will be carried out before the end of June 2011.

The department has created the Transport Network Reconstruction Program (TNRP) to deliver the massive task of reconstructing the state-controlled road and transport network, following unprecedented damage. The program is moving forward and getting on with the job to reconnect Queensland people, communities and industry by restoring a safe and efficient transport network. Later this year, a \$70 000 project involving asphalt works will be carried out at Isabella Creek Bridge through this program.

The department is currently liaising with Cook Shire Council regarding council eligibility for funding through TNRP for damage incurred to the road network through the monsoonal event. This includes the Endeavour Valley Road.

I trust this information is of assistance.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to be 'A. Palaszcuk', followed by a horizontal line.

Annastacia Palaszcuk MP
**Acting Minister for Main Roads,
Fisheries and Marine Infrastructure**