



Minister for Transport and Main Roads Minister for Digital Services

Our ref: PET 51753
Your ref: A1193566

1 William Street Brisbane 4000
GPO Box 2644 Brisbane
Queensland 4001 Australia
Telephone +61 7 3719 7300
Email transportandmainroads@ministerial.qld.gov.au
Website www.tmr.qld.gov.au

8 January 2024

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

Dear Mr Laurie

I refer to petition 3943-23, lodged with the Legislative Assembly on 28 November 2023 seeking repairs to Brisbane Valley Highway to be carried out to a higher standard.

The Department of Transport and Main Roads (TMR) notes the concerns raised by the community for the Brisbane Valley Highway (Ipswich–Harlin), Warrego Highway to Fernvale, improve safety project (Investment ID: 1465911). I can assure you that road safety is one of the Queensland Government's highest priorities, and TMR is committed to maintaining the road network to ensure it remains in a safe and trafficable condition.

The \$14.4 million safety improvements project between Warrego Highway and Fernvale is fully funded by the Queensland Government's Targeted Road Safety Program (TRSP), and construction commenced in October 2022.

The scope for this project included:

- installing a wide centre line treatment to provide additional separation between northbound and southbound traffic
- installing guardrail to provide better protection from roadside hazards
- installing dedicated right-turn and left-turn lanes at Iron Bark intersection and reducing the length of overtaking lanes approaching the intersection
- installing a dedicated right-turn and left-turn at the Borollan Station Road intersection
- minor bus stop improvements at James Road
- police enforcement bay south of Glamorgan Vale Road
- installing a dedicated left-turn lane at the Glamorgan Vale Road intersection.

TRSP-funded projects aim to improve road safety by implementing high-benefit, cost-effective treatments at known and potential crash locations on the state-controlled road network. General pavement rehabilitation and strengthening is not within the scope of TRSP funding.

However, I understand that minor resurfacing and pavement repair works were included in the current Brisbane Valley Highway project to maximise efficiencies in delivering repair works previously incorporated in TMR's North Coast Region maintenance program.

The program of works were staged to improve efficiencies. Current works have been programmed to prioritise the widening works prior to any minor resurfacing and pavement repair works. TMR is aware of potholes in the existing pavement and has completed temporary repairs. Final pavement repairs are scheduled to be completed in early 2024, weather and construction conditions permitting.

I can advise final road surfacing works will be delivered early to mid-2024 with the project expected to be completed late 2024, weather and construction conditions permitting.

I understand the D'Aguilar Highway works referenced by the community were specific pavement rehabilitation and resurfacing works. These types of works improve the surface and sub-surface of the road and are not within the scope of the current TRSP project.

I acknowledge the Brisbane Valley Highway is a key section of the road network and, to this end, TMR is undertaking maintenance (both responsive and planned activities) as part of its routine operations.

Funding for road strengthening treatments, such as pavement rehabilitation, is prioritised across the State to ensure funding is directed to the area of greatest need. At this time, there is no funding allocated to undertake pavement rehabilitation works on the Brisbane Valley Highway, however, priorities are re-evaluated annually on a needs basis, according to available funds. TMR will continue to monitor these roads as part of routine operations.

I would like to reassure you that TMR is committed to maintaining the state-controlled road network in a safe and serviceable condition, consistent with traffic needs.

The Queensland Government is delivering its eighth record transport and roads infrastructure program in a row, as detailed in the *Queensland Transport and Roads Investment Program 2023–24 to 2026–27*, which outlines \$32.1 billion in investment over the next four years and is estimated to support an average of 25,200 direct jobs over the life of the program. Of this, \$3,147 billion is committed across TMR's North Coast Region estimated to support an average of 2460 direct jobs over the life of the program.

I trust this information is of assistance.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Bart Mellish', with a stylized, flowing script.

BART MELLISH MP
Minister for Transport and Main Roads
Minister for Digital Services