

Our ref: PET 56914

7 January 2026

Mr Neil Laurie
The Clerk of the Parliament
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Dear Mr ~~Laurie~~ ^{Neil}

I refer to petition 4342-25, lodged with the Legislative Assembly on 9 December 2025 about incorporating microbat-friendly structures in the design for the new Barron River bridge at Kuranda.

The Crisafulli Government is committed to protecting Queensland's unique biodiversity, including securing habitats for endangered species, and supporting habitat restoration and conservation projects across the State. Biodiversity is a consideration for the Barron River bridge project—the ecological value and condition of the area will be carefully assessed throughout the planning and design process.

The Barron River bridge is located in a highly constrained site with unique fauna and flora. I note that the project is subject to environmental approvals under the Federal Government's *Environmental Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act* (EPBC). Necessary approvals and legislative or regulatory requirements, including but not limited to EPBC, will be adhered to as part of the delivery of the new Barron River Bridge.

Additionally, the *Fauna Sensitive Transport Infrastructure Delivery* manual will be considered during the design process. This manual provides guidance for the Department of Transport and Main Roads to consult when natural habitat availability for a specific species is low—enabling additional habitat features to be incorporated where reasonable and appropriate.

I trust this information is of assistance.

Yours sincerely



BRENT MICKELBERG MP
Minister for Transport and Main Roads