

Our ref: PET 56982

4 March 2026

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

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Dear Mr Laurie

I refer to petition 4337-25 lodged with the Legislative Assembly on 10 February 2026 about incorporating microbat-friendly structures in the design for the new Barron River bridge at Kuranda.

As previously advised in my response to petition 4342-25, the Crisafulli Government remains 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 the project is subject to environmental approvals under the Federal Government's *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* (EPBC Act). Necessary approvals and legislative or regulatory requirements, including but not limited to the EPBC Act, 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**