

Minister for Transport and Main Roads Minister for Digital Services

Our ref: PET48669 Your ref: A1092982

18 May 2023

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

Dear Mr Laurie

I refer to petition 3861-23, lodged with the Legislative Assembly by Mr Nicholas Dametto MP, Member for Hinchinbrook, on 18 April 2023 about road infrastructure upgrades in Townsville's northern suburbs.

The Palaszczuk Government is planning transport infrastructure to support Townsville's economic and population growth. I am pleased to advise the infrastructure upgrades mentioned are the subject of current preliminary planning by the Department of Transport and Main Roads (TMR).

TMR commenced the North Townsville Road, Northshore Boulevard to Ingham Road, safety and capacity planning project last year and will complete preliminary planning by the end of this year. The Palaszczuk Government is investing \$1.16 million in the current preliminary planning for this project which encompasses Woolcock Street, North Shore Boulevard, Ingham Road, several rail crossings and the Bohle River bridges.

Planning and technical investigations for the project are highly complex due to the proximity of the intersections, river and rail and the extremely constrained footprint available to implement infrastructure upgrades at this location. The constraints around the intersections include existing commercial, educational, industrial and residential development.

Planning work is also underway for upgrades to cycling and pedestrian facilities along this section of road. The Palaszczuk Government has allocated \$2.8 million in funding to the North Townsville Road, Ingham Road to Shaw Road, Bohle River Bridge and approaches improve pedestrian access and cycleway project, with detailed design now underway.

Regarding the Deeragun Road/Garland Road intersection with Woolcock Street, the Palaszczuk Government's investment of \$200 million in the Townsville Ring Road Section 4 project, completed in 2016, assisted in relieving traffic pressure by taking away substantial through-traffic. However, one of the issues still impacting this intersection is congestion related to the Garland Road and Bohlevale School Road intersection. TMR is working with Townsville City Council on upgrade options for this intersection. The Palaszczuk Government is contributing \$1.453 million to the Garland Road and Bohlevale School Road (Deeragun) upgrade intersection project.

I trust this information is of assistance.

Yours sincerely

MARK BAILEY MP

Minister for Transport and Main Roads

Minister for Digital Services