

Warren Pitt MP
Member for Mulgrave

Our ref: MC32373

Your ref: 894-07

19 DEC 2007

Mr Neil Laurie The Clerk of the Parliament Parliament House Cnr Alice and George Streets Brisbane Old 4000



Minister for Main Roads and Local Government

Dear Mr Laurie

I refer to petition No. 894-07, lodged with the Legislative Assembly by Ms Rosa Lee Long MP, Member for Tablelands, on 5 September 2007, requesting a cycle track be included in the upgrade of the Gillies Highway, between Yungaburra and Lake Eacham.

The Department of Main Roads has advised that where roads carry relatively low volumes of vehicular traffic and bicycles, road shoulders are sealed to provide for cyclists. Works to widen and strengthen this section of the Gillies Highway are currently programmed in the later years of the Roads Implementation Program 2007-08 to 2011-12, and will include resurfacing the existing shoulders to provide a one metre bitumen seal.

The state government provides funding to councils for off-road cycle tracks under the Transport Infrastructure Development Scheme (TIDS). TIDS subsidies for approved projects are generally provided subject to council covering 50% of the total project cost.

As the construction of an off-road cycle track is primarily a local government responsibility, Eacham Shire Council would be required to indicate strong support and demonstrate a high priority for a project submitted for consideration. If successful, council would be required to match the TIDS funding approved for the proposed project.

Main Roads has further advised that it recently wrote to Ms Lee Long MP, advising of the above and also to council referring the matter for consideration and further reply to Ms Lee Long MP.

Yours sincerely

Warren Pitt MP
Minister for Main Roads