



Minister for Transport and Main Roads

Our ref: PET 42647
Your ref: A757403

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

30 September 2021

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

Dear Mr Laurie

I refer to petition 3556-21 lodged with the Legislative Assembly on 1 September 2021 about additional funding to the D'Aguilar Highway for merge lanes at the intersections of King Street and Williams Road, Moodlu.

The Department of Transport and Main Roads (TMR) notes the concerns raised. As previously advised in responses to petitions 3306-20, 3324-20, 3354-20, and 3454-21, TMR has investigated the request for an acceleration lane to assist vehicles turning left from King Street onto the D'Aguilar Highway. This investigation concluded the requested merge lane was not a feasible treatment as it would introduce an unacceptable safety risk due to the Lord Lane intersection being located at the end of the acceleration lane. The findings of the investigation remain relevant today.

As previously communicated, early planning looked at extending Lord Lane to Williams Road and closing the existing intersection. Relocating Lord Lane intersection further west, as suggested by the petitioners, does not align with planning undertaken to date, and would attract significant cost and introduce safety issues due to the height difference. The proposal to make Lord Lane left-in/left-out is acknowledged, but would result in impacts for both residents and businesses to find a safe U-turn location elsewhere on the network. There are no safe and convenient locations for residents or visitors to perform a U-turn and no locations suitable for heavy vehicles to turn.

Based on a review of crash data over the past five years, there are no recorded crashes observed between through traffic and vehicles entering from King Street during this period. TMR will continue to monitor this intersection as part of routine operations and assess its suitability for upgrade in future.

As previously advised, safety improvement works on King Street between Williams Road and the D'Aguilar Highway were completed in February 2018. These works included the provision of a raised median at the King Street/Williams Road intersection and realignment of the left-turn facility from King Street to the D'Aguilar Highway. The works improved visibility and provided a safe speed environment for road users along this section of road.

Design is now complete for the D'Aguilar Highway safety improvements project between Sandy Creek and Kilcoy. The project will focus on treatments to improve overall safety for road users and reduce the potential for head-on, rear-end and run-off-road crashes on this section of the highway. Road widening will accommodate wider shoulders and wide centre line treatment. Wide centre lines improve safety by providing additional separation between vehicles travelling in opposite directions. Shoulder widening improves safety by providing additional trafficable area to pull over, assists emergency vehicles to pass, accommodates wide vehicles and provides greater separation between cars and bike riders.

Early works were undertaken in late 2020 to prepare for construction, including lantana clearing and tree trimming. Construction is anticipated to start in late 2021, weather and construction scheduling permitting.

In addition, design is now complete for an intersection safety improvement and pavement rehabilitation project along approximately four kilometres of the D'Aguilar Highway, from just west of Kilcoy–Beerwah Road to just west of Stony Creek Road, at Stony Creek. Works will improve the road surface and underlying pavement, extending the life of the road and reducing the ongoing routine maintenance costs. The intersection safety treatments will provide dedicated right-turn lanes at the D'Aguilar Highway intersections with Jenkinsons, Bateman and Stony Creek roads, reducing the risk of rear-end crashes for vehicles waiting to turn right at these intersections while improving traffic flow for vehicles continuing on the D'Aguilar Highway. Construction is anticipated to start in late 2021, weather and construction scheduling permitting.

The Palaszczuk Government allocated a total of \$37.39 million for works on the D'Aguilar Highway within the *Queensland Transport and Roads Investment Program 2021–22 to 2024–25*. In terms of planning for future upgrades, \$751,000 has been allocated to undertake high-level corridor planning along the D'Aguilar Highway from Caboolture Connection Road in Moodlu to west of Wamuran. Planning is underway and is expected to be completed in 2023.

During the period from 1 July 2015 to 30 June 2021 (financial years 2015–16 to 2020–21), TMR delivered approximately \$44.62 million of transport and roads infrastructure investments on the D'Aguilar Highway sections between Caboolture and Yarraman, in TMR's North Coast Region.

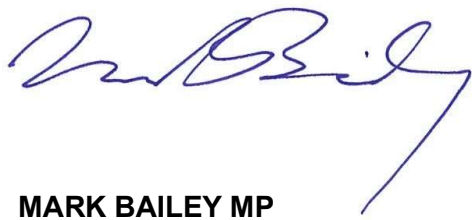
Petitioners may also note that TMR has started work on a \$12 million project to improve road safety on a four-kilometre section of the D'Aguilar Highway between west of Lord Lane at Moodlu and Wamuran township. The road safety improvements include widening the road to accommodate a painted, one-metre wide centre line treatment with audible markings and improvements at the Franks Lane and Bye Road (western end) intersections to provide dedicated right-turn lanes.

Roadside vegetation clearing will be undertaken at key locations to improve motorists' sight lines and reduce roadside hazards, and new signs to reinforce overtaking rules will be installed. Works are anticipated to be completed in mid-2022, weather and construction scheduling permitting.

Additionally, TMR continually carries out regular inspections and monitoring of the D'Aguilar Highway to ensure it remains in a safe and trafficable condition for road users. Any identified safety issues are repaired as quickly as possible to provide a safer environment for motorists and other road users.

I trust this information is of assistance.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Mark Bailey', with a long, sweeping underline that extends to the right.

MARK BAILEY MP
Minister for Transport and Main Roads