

Minister for Transport and Main Roads

Our ref: PET3444-20 Your ref: A685321

10 June 2021

Mr Neil Laurie The Clerk of the Parliament Parliament House George Street BRISBANE QLD 4000 1 William Street Brisbane 4000 GPO Box 2644 Brisbane Queensland 4001 Australia **Telephone +617 3719 7300**

Email transportandmainroads@ministerial.qld.gov.au

Website www.tmr.qld.gov.au

Dear Mr Laurie

I refer to petition 3444-20, lodged with the Legislative Assembly on 11 May 2021 about building an exit off the Warrego Highway to Coal Road, Chuwar.

In mid-2020, the Department of Transport and Main Roads (TMR) undertook community consultation on a proposed design for an upgrade to the Warrego Highway – Mount Crosby Road interchange, which proposed to remove the access from Coal Road onto the interchange. Details regarding the proposed concept design used throughout the community consultation can be found on TMR's website at www.tmr.qld.gov.au by selecting (1) 'Projects' and (2) searching 'Warrego Highway (Ipswich - Toowoomba) and Mount Crosby Road interchange'.

TMR has analysed and reviewed the results from the consultation and is preparing to release these results back to the community, along with the next stages for project development. TMR is working to progress the design of the interchange upgrade in line with feedback from the community and key stakeholder consultation. This will include any modifications to the current access to and from Coal Road.

Safety is at the forefront of everything the Palaszczuk Government does, and while it is impossible to eliminate road crashes altogether, the Palaszczuk Government is committed to delivering safer roads for all Queenslanders. Any upgrade of the interchange will address safety concerns and consider increased traffic growth due to development of the surrounding area and associated increased traffic volumes on the Warrego Highway. The community will be informed as the project progresses.

In the meantime, TMR has implemented a safety warning and queue monitoring system to reduce the risk of vehicle traffic accidents at this location. This includes the installation of closed-circuit television at the Warrego Highway – Mount Crosby Road interchange and a vehicle detector radar on the westbound off-ramp of the Warrego Highway at the interchange, which is linked to a variable message sign trailer for the Warrego Highway. These measures will warn drivers travelling westbound on the Warrego Highway to reduce speed when queuing is detected at the interchange.

I trust this information is of assistance.

Yours sincerely

MARK BAILEY MP

Minister for Transport and Main Roads