

19 SEP 2024

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Mr Neil Laurie
The Clerk of the Parliament
Parliament House

Email: tableoffice@parliament.qld.gov.au

Dear Mr Laurie

Thank you for your letter dated 21 August 2024 regarding Petition No. 4112-24 in relation to car park upgrades at Cedar Creek State School, received by the Queensland Legislative Assembly.

The safety and wellbeing of students and staff in Queensland schools are of the highest priority for the Queensland Government.

As you can appreciate, school road safety is a matter that requires whole-of-community awareness and commitment. Improving the safety of school travel for all children relies on the involvement and engagement of schools (including parent associations), local government and state authorities, such as the Department of Education (DoE), the Queensland Police Service, the Department of Transport and Main Roads, and TransLink and/or bus operators, as required.

I understand the car park at the main entrance of Cedar Creek State School is located outside the school boundary on land managed by the City of Gold Coast Council (Council). Accordingly, any enquiries related to this car park should be directed to the Council at www.goldcoast.gld.gov.au/Council/About-Council/Contact-us.

Cedar Creek State School does not currently have an established Safe School Travel (SafeST) Committee in place; however, the school continues to examine ways to improve traffic safety. This includes reiterating to the school community the importance of road safety and complying with road rules in the school's newsletters and at assemblies. Additionally, families are encouraged to abide by the stop, drop and go procedures, allow clear access for buses and, where possible, stagger pick-up times of an afternoon to reduce traffic congestion.

Should Cedar Creek State School express an interest in establishing a formal SafeST Committee, DoE will work with the school to facilitate this process.

When considering new infrastructure projects for school facilities, such as additional or upgraded parking, DoE works with principals to develop a list of priorities through a School Strategic Infrastructure Plan (SSIP).

DoE's regional infrastructure teams support schools to submit SSIP proposals for consideration, and these are assessed through a prioritisation process to meet the highest needs across the State. This process is used to develop DoE's short, medium and long-term investment priorities, which are subject to funding availability.

I can advise that Cedar Creek State School does not currently list additional car parking as a priority on its SSIP. Please be assured DoE will continue to work with Cedar Creek State School to ensure its SSIP reflects the school's current infrastructure priorities.

I would like to thank you, the principal petitioner, and every person who signed the petition for their advocacy for Cedar Creek State School.

Yours sincerely

DI FARMER MP

Minister for Education and Minister for Youth Justice

Ref: 24/687431