

## Minister for Transport and Main Roads

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14 April 2022

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

Dear Mr Laurie

I refer to petition 3592-21 lodged with the Legislative Assembly on 15 March 2022 about the impact of the Caloundra Transport Corridor Upgrade (CTCU) to the community and environment.

The CTCU project will provide an alternate, more direct access to the Caloundra CBD and surrounds. It will address significant congestion at the intersection of Caloundra Road, Nicklin Way and Pelican Waters Boulevard, which is currently the main access to Caloundra. It is being delivered in stages by the Australian and Queensland governments and Sunshine Coast Council (SCC).

## The CTCU project includes:

- Section 1 Omrah Avenue to Arthur Street to be delivered by SCC
- Section 2 Nicklin Way and Third Avenue extension jointly funded by the Australian Government (\$7 million), Queensland Government (\$7 million) and SCC (\$4.2 million).

Initial planning for the Nicklin Way and Third Avenue extension component of the project is complete and community members provided feedback on the initial designs during drop-in sessions, online feedback and at a community forum held on 10 March 2022, hosted by the Caloundra Residents Association.

Feedback is being reviewed and will be fully considered as part of the detailed design phase, which is expected to commence in mid-2022. The Department of Transport and Main Roads (TMR) will continue to investigate options to minimise all impacts of the CTCU project, wherever possible. During the detailed design phase, the alignment will be further investigated and additional environmental studies will be undertaken to seek to minimise impacts on Ben Bennett Park, while ensuring safety standards are not compromised.

TMR will continue to work closely with SCC to ensure the best possible community and environmental outcomes can be achieved while delivering this important transport infrastructure for the community. The community will be updated as design progresses, including to advise of future community consultation opportunities.

The Palaszczuk Government is delivering its sixth record transport and roads infrastructure program in a row, outlining \$27.5 billion in investment over the next four years and estimated to support an average of 24,000 direct jobs over the life of the program. Of this, \$2.927 million is committed across TMR's North Coast Region, which is estimated to support an average of 2640 direct jobs over the life of the program.

Queensland's world-leading pandemic response has made it the place to be and, to support the State's population boom, significant road upgrades are being delivered as part of *Queensland's COVID-19 Economic Recovery Plan*. With the Brisbane 2032 Olympics and Paralympics on the horizon, these upgrades provide immediate economic benefits, support more jobs and deliver ongoing benefits of vital infrastructure for years to come.

I trust this information is of assistance.

Yours sincerely

**MARK BAILEY MP** 

Minister for Transport and Main Roads