



Hon. Paul Lucas MP



Queensland
Government

Our ref: MC17486

Minister for
Transport and Main Roads

Your ref: 534-05; 573-05

13 JAN 2006

Mr Neil Laurie
The Clerk of the Parliament
Parliament House
George Street
Brisbane Qld 4000

Dear Mr Laurie

Re: Petition Nos. 534-05 and 573-05: Intersection of David Low Way, Menzies Drive and Mudjimba Beach Road Pacific Paradise

I refer to two petitions lodged with the Legislative Assembly by Miss Fiona Simpson MP, Member for Maroochydore on 8 November 2005 about the planned upgrade of the David Low Way, Menzies Drive and Mudjimba Beach Road intersection to be brought forward into the 2006-07 financial year.

The Department of Main Roads is finalising the planning of the upgrade for the Menzies Drive and Mudjimba Beach Road intersections. Preconstruction work is being accelerated with final design expected to start early next year. This will allow completion of land acquisition by the end of 2006 and service relocations by mid 2007 before construction starts. Currently it is Main Roads intention to deliver the project in the 2008-09 financial year. The ability to bring forward construction of this project will be considered together with other priority projects in future reviews of the Roads Implementation Program.

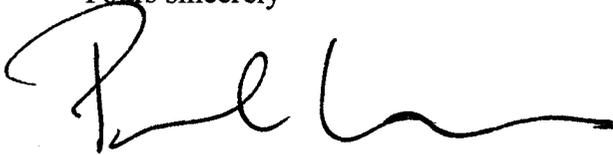
This project is one of many in the record \$318m funding for roads in Caloundra, Maroochy and Noosa Shires. This compares with \$56m allocated by the coalition government in the 1996-97 and 1997-98 financial years.

Funding of \$110m has been allocated from the Accelerated Roads Infrastructure Package to duplicate 5km of the Sunshine Motorway between Maroochydore Road and David Low Way (including a second bridge over the Maroochy River). This project will eliminate the traffic congestion currently experienced on the southbound merge at Pacific Paradise. The project has been fast tracked by 12 months. Foundation drilling has been completed at the bridge site and preliminary works will start in early 2006. The major construction work is expected to start mid 2006 and be completed by the end of 2008.

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As part of the Beattie Government election commitments, \$35m has been allocated for a new interchange on the Sunshine Motorway and a new road link between the motorway and David Low Way to the north of Pacific Paradise. This project will reduce the traffic volumes on David Low Way in Pacific Paradise. This will reduce the levels of congestion at Menzies Drive/Mudjimba Beach Road and the other intersections on David Low Way. Construction is expected to start late 2006 and be completed by early 2008.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Paul Lucas', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

PAUL LUCAS MP

Minister for Transport and Main Roads