



Warren Pitt MP
Member for Mulgrave



**Minister for Main Roads and
Local Government**

MC08.3203

13 OCT 2008

Mr Neil Laurie
The Clerk of the Parliament
TableOffice@parliament.qld.gov.au

Dear Mr Laurie

Thank you for providing me with a copy of the wording of petition number 1065-08, lodged with the Queensland Legislative Assembly, requesting funds be allocated to upgrade and seal Raines Road, Sharon, to prevent further accidents or loss of life.

This road falls under the jurisdiction of the Bundaberg Regional Council and therefore it is responsible for upgrading and maintaining the road.

The State Government does however, provide funding assistance to local government for road construction and maintenance under two funding programs.

The Transport Infrastructure Development Scheme (TIDS) provides annual funding to councils towards construction and maintenance activities on local government roads. In 2007/2008 Bundaberg Regional Council received \$2,017,885 in funding under the TIDS program.

Through this program, funding assistance is provided on a dollar-for-dollar matching basis to assist local governments to deal with demands on their local road networks as well as managing the local employment impacts. General information concerning the program can be viewed on the Department of Main Road's website:

[http://www.mainroads.qld.gov.au/web/AttachStore.nsf/allobjects/Factsheet_HowRoadsFunded/\\$file/Factsheet_HowRoadsFunded.pdf](http://www.mainroads.qld.gov.au/web/AttachStore.nsf/allobjects/Factsheet_HowRoadsFunded/$file/Factsheet_HowRoadsFunded.pdf).

The State Government also supports local government with funding assistance through its Roads and Drainage Grant which assists councils to provide and maintain roads and drainage infrastructure. In 2007/2008 Bundaberg Regional Council received \$546,638 under the Roads and Drainage Grant with an equivalent amount to be allocated for 2008/2009. This assistance is provided to all councils as an annual grant allocation.

In Queensland, local governments are charged with taking independent action on a wide range of matters. Under the provisions of the *Local Government Act 1993* (the Act), a local government has control of all roads within its area, other than State-controlled roads. Control in this case includes the construction, maintenance and improvement of roads.

It is entirely up to each local government to decide on the extent of its annual road works program. This is generally done as part of the budget process when Council is making decisions about the works it will undertake and the services it will provide.

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All enquiries regarding this project should be directed to the Bundaberg Regional Council on telephone number 13 0088 3699, or by writing to the Chief Executive Officer, Bundaberg Regional Council, PO Box 3130, Bundaberg Qld 4670.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "FWPitt". The letters are cursive and connected.

Warren Pitt MP
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