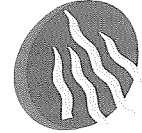




**Hon Rachel Nolan MP**  
Member for Ipswich



**Queensland  
Government**

Our ref: MC44566

**Minister for Transport**

20 OCT 2009

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

Dear Mr Laurie

I refer to a petition number 1280-09 lodged with the Legislative Assembly by Mr Paul Hoolihan MP, Member for Keppel, on 15 September 2009, about the closed Yeppoon to Rockhampton rail corridor and its development as a rail trail.

The community's desires outlined in the petition are noted. Under the government's railway branch line rationalisation program, the rail corridor land will be retained by the state for the future. However, the land is available for use as a trail subject to reaching agreement on the terms and conditions of the proposed sublease, which indemnifies the state.

The Department of Transport and Main Roads is continuing to work closely with the Rockhampton Regional Council to expedite project development, however, project delivery is the sole jurisdiction of council. In this instance, the rationalisation program includes state government funding of \$1m to council to develop trails on the closed rail corridor and in the Yeppoon area.

I am advised that council has recently expressed interest in development of the trail between Yeppoon and Cawarral only. The department notes council's future interest in the remaining section of the closed rail corridor. The department is supportive of the proposed rail trail development and is ready to work with council to facilitate the development of this community asset.

I trust this information is of assistance.

Yours sincerely

**RACHEL NOLAN MP**  
**Minister for Transport**

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