



The Honourable Scott Emerson MP
Minister for Transport and Main Roads

Our ref: PET 11394

Your ref: Petitions

29 AUG 2013

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

Dear Mr Laurie

I refer to petition numbers 2097-13 and 2147-13 lodged with the Legislative Assembly by Mr Sean Choat MP, Member for Ipswich West on 6 August 2013 about upgrading of the bridge at Colleges Crossing.

The Department of Transport and Main Roads (TMR) appreciates the concerns of local residents using local crossings and the inconvenience caused when flood or dam release events temporarily cut access. As a result, TMR undertook a feasibility study to look at improving river crossings and flood immunity in the area.

The study considered a number of different solutions including raising existing crossings and providing new ones. For these proposals to provide reasonably improved flood resilience, expenditure in the hundreds of millions of dollars would be required.

Further work is being undertaken this year to better understand the cost implications of raising Colleges Crossing by a few metres to improve flood immunity during lower level dam releases.

Unfortunately, in the current financially constrained environment, TMR is unable to justify the significant expenditure associated with providing a new bridge when faced with higher statewide priorities.

Yours sincerely

Scott Emerson MP
Minister for Transport and Main Roads

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