



Minister for Main Roads, Road Safety and Ports
Minister for Energy and Water Supply

Our ref: PET 15370

Your ref: 10.4 Petitions

15 OCT 2015

Mr Neil Laurie
The Clerk of the Parliament
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Dear Mr Laurie

I refer to petition numbers 2434-15 and 2460-15 lodged with the Legislative Assembly by Ms Verity Barton MP, Member for Broadwater on 16 and 17 September 2015 about the installation of flashing school zone signs in Government Road at Labrador State School.

I have been advised by TMR that no funding was committed to the installation of flashing school zone lights at the Labrador State School by the former Newman Government, and that the school was never included on any list for flashing school zone signs prepared by that government.

Rather, installation of the lights was an unfunded election commitment made by the Member for Broadwater, under the so called 'strong choices' plan, which the LNP no longer supports. It was completely reliant on the sale of vital public assets.

It is therefore incorrect and misleading for the Member to assert that funding was withdrawn by the Palaszczuk Government in the 2015-16 budget.

The Palaszczuk Government is committed to the flashing school lights program which has been a resounding success since its inception by the Bligh Government in 2011.

In fact, \$12 million had been allocated in the 2015-2016 State Budget to install flashing school zone signs to an extra 300 Queensland school zones over the next three years to enhance road safety for students, and for maintenance.

TMR undertakes a detailed risk analysis to determine the school zones that will receive flashing school zone signs. Priority is given to school zones with a high level of vehicle and pedestrian traffic, higher speed limits or visibility problems, and crash history is also taken into account. While requests put forward by local MPs are an important consideration for TMR's selection process, they are not the only criterion.

I am pleased to advise that I have recently written to the Principal of Labrador State School to notify that as a result of TMR's evaluation process, it was determined that this location was one of the top-100 priorities for flashing school zone signs and that installation has therefore been approved as part of the government's 2015 -16 flashing school zone sign program.

I would also like to take this opportunity to thank the petitioners for their commitment to safety on our roads, which is a commitment I share as Queensland's first Minister for Road Safety.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'M Bailey', with a long, sweeping tail that extends downwards and to the right.

MARK BAILEY MP
Minister for Main Roads, Road Safety and Ports and
Minister for Energy and Water Supply