

16 January 2004

Mr Adrian Raedel  
PO Box 1584  
Caboolture Qld 4510

Dear Mr Raedel

I refer to the petition lodged by the Member for Gregory, on 13 November 2003, with the Legislative Assembly, about completion of the Caboolture Bypass in 2004. This matter was referred to the Minister for Transport and Minister for Main Roads for reply. As the government has assumed a caretaker role during the election period, by convention, the minister has asked that I respond direct to you on his behalf.

The recently announced Roads Implementation Program for 2003-04 to 2007-08 provides \$1.0m in 2004-05 to start construction of the next stage of the bypass. The work will involve extending Mewett Street north to Pettigrew Street in preparation for the closure of Manley Street where the bypass will cross it.

The bypass must then connect to new works on the Bruce Highway that are programmed for inclusion in the six-lane upgrade from the Gateway Motorway to Caboolture. Planning and preliminary design work associated with this connection is already underway.

However, funding for the highway work is to be provided by the federal government. Officers of the Department of Main Roads will also ensure that preliminary design work is completed as quickly as possible so that works may proceed as soon as the federal funding has been approved.

There are a number of significant projects competing for priority for state funding allocations over the next three years. At this point in time, the state funding for this project has been programmed to match the anticipated timing of the highway upgrade to which it must connect.

In the meantime, recent surveys have shown that traffic volumes on some local streets in Caboolture East have increased since the opening of the first stage of the bypass. Officers of Main Roads and Caboolture Shire Council will be meeting in the near future to identify actions that may be taken to limit the impact of the extra traffic on local people who use these streets.

Yours sincerely

**Original signed**

Stephen Golding AM RFD

**Director-General**