



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

Our ref: PET19101

Your ref: 10.4 Petitions

13 OCT 2016

Mr Neil Laurie
The Clerk of the Parliament
Parliament House
George Street
BRISBANE QLD 4000

Level 15 Capital Hill Building
85 George Street Brisbane 4000
GPO Box 2644 Brisbane
Queensland 4001 Australia
Telephone +61 7 3719 7300
Facsimile +61 7 3224 2493
Email mainroads@ministerial.qld.gov.au
Website www.tmr.qld.gov.au

Dear Mr Laurie

I refer to a petition number 2637-16 lodged with the Legislative Assembly by Mr Pat Weir MP, Member for Condamine, on 14 September 2016 about the lack of community consultation and consideration of the impact to local businesses by the Warrego Highway Upgrade Projects being undertaken through Dalby.

One of the key aims of this project is to improve the overall safety of traffic on the Warrego Highway by providing dedicated right hand turn lanes at most of the intersections through Dalby. To construct these additional lanes means that space currently being used as parking will no longer be available. The Department of Transport and Main Roads (TMR) has had to use all of the current available road reserve in the design. To continue to provide parking would require additional land resumption, including from local businesses.

The parking spaces currently in place along the Warrego Highway through Dalby do not meet existing safety standards because they are too narrow. As a result, these spaces cannot be reinstated 'as is' as part of the upgrade. Some parallel parking for residents on the eastern side of town, where land resumption was possible and posed minimal impact, will remain.

Extensive signage of alternative parking options to support existing businesses along the highway, is being considered in partnership with Western Downs Regional Council (WDRC). WDRC is also developing a plan where line marking can be done to provide additional parking in side streets, off the highway. WDRC plan to have this completed by late December 2016, well ahead of the start of construction.

In response to recent consultation, TMR is reinvestigating whether or not any alternative parking designs could allow for continuation of parking along the highway in front of the popular 'Thomas Jack Park', specifically to allow for tourists who use both the park and businesses nearby.

Yours sincerely

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