



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

Our ref: PET 21659

Your ref: 10.4 Petitions

20 JUN 2017

Mr Neil Laurie
The Clerk of the Parliament
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Dear Mr Laurie

I refer to petition number 2710-17 lodged with the Legislative Assembly by Mr Michael Crandon MP, Member for Coomera on 23 May 2017 about the northbound off-ramp at the Pacific Motorway (M1) Pimpama interchange (Exit 49).

The Palaszczuk Government acknowledges that ongoing growth on the northern Gold Coast is putting increasing pressure on Pacific Motorway interchanges, including Exit 49 at Pimpama. The Department of Transport and Main Roads has investigated options to reduce queue lengths on the Exit 49 northbound off-ramp from the Pacific Motorway.

The objective of this work was to determine the best staged and long-term solutions that increase safety at Exit 49 while taking into consideration traffic flows through and around the interchange, as well as connecting to the City of Gold Coast's road network.

In December 2016 the Pimpama City Shopping Centre development on Pimpama–Jacobs Well Road was conditioned by the Department of Infrastructure, Local Government and Planning to add 150 metres of new lane capacity at both the Exit 49 off-ramps. This will substantially reduce vehicle queuing towards the motorway through lanes.

Further upgrades to the Exit 49 interchange would be subject to competing priorities across the state. That competition has become more challenging as a consequence of more than \$600 million having been cut from transport funding during the term of the previous LNP government, which also spent more than \$30 million of the Department of Transport and Main Roads' budget preparing for asset sales and contestability.

I thank the petitioners for their interest in this important road safety issue for their community, and assure them that delivering improvements to the M1 remains a key priority of the Palaszczuk Government.

Yours sincerely

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