



Deputy Premier  
Minister for Transport and  
Minister for Infrastructure and Planning

Our ref: MC17/946

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27 MAR 2017

ABN 90 856 020 239

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

Dear Mr Laurie

Neil,

Thank you for your letter of 2 March 2017 regarding petitions 2722-17 and 2687-17 lodged with the Legislative Assembly on 1 March 2017 about the proposed major amendment to the *Sunshine Coast Planning Scheme 2014* (planning scheme) affecting land at Twin Waters West.

The Twin Waters West site, located just north of the Maroochy River in the Sunshine Coast region is currently zoned rural and is located outside the urban growth boundary under the current Sunshine Coast Regional Council's (the council) planning scheme. The major amendment proposed by the council seeks to include this site inside of the urban growth boundary and have the site designated within the Emerging Community Zone.

I understand residents are concerned with the suitability of the site for urban development and impacts which may occur as a result, including flooding and impacts to the natural environment. The petitioners are therefore seeking that the House refuse the proposed amendment.

As the Minister for Planning, my role in the draft amendment process was to review the changes proposed by the council to ensure they do not adversely impact or affect state interests. On 19 July 2016, I wrote to the council advising that state interests had been adequately reflected in the proposed amendment package and that the council could proceed with public consultation. My consideration of state interests included advice provided by the Department of Infrastructure, Local Government and Planning (DILGP) and the Department of Environment and Heritage Protection in respect to the protection of ecologically important areas and coastal management.

I am advised the council completed public consultation of the amendment on 7 November 2016 and received approximately 600 submissions. It is now the council's responsibility to consider each submission and provide a response advising how each concern raised will be addressed. A number of submissions were also received by DILGP raising concerns about the proposed amendment, which have been responded to accordingly.

Please be assured that I will be receiving advice from DILGP on the issues raised in relation to Twin Waters West when I consider whether or not to allow the council to adopt the amendment.

The petitions also requested the Twin Waters West land be removed from the 'Urban Footprint' land use category under the *South East Queensland Regional Plan 2009-2031* (SEQRP) and the draft *South East Queensland Regional Plan 2016* (also known as *ShapingSEQ*), to limit certain types of development within this area.

The Queensland Government is currently reviewing the SEQRP in response to emerging opportunities and trends, including the consideration of updated long-term population forecasts for South East Queensland (SEQ).

As part of this process, the government released the *ShapingSEQ* for public consultation on 20 October 2016. *ShapingSEQ* aims to meet the needs of our changing and growing population in a sustainable manner, while driving economic development and job creation and ensuring SEQ's unique identity and precious natural assets are retained for current and future generations.

To ensure there was sufficient time to review the plan and have a say, public consultation was open until 3 March 2017, considerably exceeding the minimum statutory notification requirements.

I am advised DILGP, as part of the recent public consultation on *ShapingSEQ*, received submissions from residents within the Twin Waters West area. Submissions received during this period will be considered as part of the process to finalise the SEQRP.

Through the SEQRP review process, DILGP is investigating the extent of the current SEQRP's regional land use categories having regard to:

- addressing any relevant state interests identified in the State Planning Policy
- how any proposal advances and supports relevant SEQRP Desired Regional Outcomes and associated principles and policies
- how a proposal addresses the Urban Footprint principles identified in the SEQRP
- ongoing consultation with the region's local governments about their strategic planning intentions and related planning decisions.


It is important to acknowledge that while *ShapingSEQ* focuses on accommodating growth efficiently across the region, it remains the responsibility of councils, through their planning schemes and neighbourhood plans, to determine the form and distribution of densities in their local government area. This is why the government will continue working closely with all of the SEQ councils through the finalisation of the plan.

To ensure the regional plan review process is undertaken with transparency, accountability and openness, I will be ensuring that a consultation report will be released to the public when the SEQRP is finalised. This report will summarise the issues identified during the consultation period and the decisions taken regarding changes to *ShapingSEQ*.

*ShapingSEQ* is delivering on the government's commitment to release a considered and effective growth management framework for our most populous region. The government has ensured this has been a genuinely consultative process and I look forward to continuing to deliver on this commitment through the finalisation of *ShapingSEQ*.

If you require further information, I encourage you to contact Ms Kerry Riethmuller, Executive Director, Regional and Spatial Planning in DILGP on 3452 7602 or by email at [kerry.riethmuller@dilgp.qld.gov.au](mailto:kerry.riethmuller@dilgp.qld.gov.au).

Yours sincerely



**JACKIE TRAD MP**  
**DEPUTY PREMIER**  
**Minister for Transport and**  
**Minister for Infrastructure and Planning**