



Minister for Main Roads, Road Safety and Ports

Our ref: PET23251

20 SEP 2017

1 William Street Brisbane 4000
GPO Box 2644 Brisbane
Queensland 4001 Australia
Telephone +61 7 3719 7300
Email mainroads@ministerial.qld.gov.au
Website www.tmr.qld.gov.au

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

Dear Mr Laurie

I refer to petition 2779-17 lodged with the Legislative Assembly by Dr Christian Rowan MP, Member for Moggill, on 23 August 2017 requesting a feasibility study for a bridge to Bellbowrie in collaboration with Brisbane City Council (BCC) to ease traffic congestion and allow access to rail services.

The Department of Transport and Main Roads (TMR) continues to monitor growth and development in Moggill, Bellbowrie and surrounding suburbs including Anstead, Karana Downs and Mount Crosby. TMR acknowledges that increased residential and commercial development, particularly in Moggill and Bellbowrie, will place growing pressure on roads and transport corridors in the area.

The Palaszczuk Government is committed to providing an integrated and efficient public transport network for Queensland. I'm advised that currently, TMR's TransLink division scheduled urban bus routes 444 and 443, and BCC personalised public transport (PPT) service are helping meet demand for commuter services and assisting in reducing the use of personal vehicles travelling along the Moggill Road corridor.

These bus routes and BCC's PPT provide residents and visitors to Brisbane's outer south-western suburbs with connections to additional services operating across Brisbane and South East Queensland. TMR will, however, continue to monitor the use of public transport services in these suburbs and consider future service improvements to ensure the public transport needs of the area continue to be met.

In regard to the request for a feasibility study for a bridge at Bellbowrie, TMR acknowledges residents' concerns about traffic congestion in the western suburbs of Brisbane. At this time, TMR does not currently have any plans to construct a bridge over the Brisbane River in the Bellbowrie/Moggill area.

TMR does, however, have a long-term plan for the western metropolitan area which includes the Moggill Pocket Arterial Road, which would provide a new bridge over the Brisbane River to the north of the Moggill Ferry site (an alternative route to Colleges Crossing) and improve traffic flow through Moggill and western Brisbane.

The Moggill Pocket Arterial Road corridor, also known as the Moggill–Warrego Highway Connection, was identified in the 1960s and preserved in the late 1970s by the then Department of Main Roads. It runs from the Centenary Highway at Fig Tree Pocket to connect with the Warrego Highway at North Tivoli, and remains as an important future corridor.

I am advised that there is no funding currently allocated to progress detailed planning, design or construction of the Moggill–Warrego Highway Connection. Funding to progress the project further will now be subject to competing priorities across the State. Unfortunately 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

I trust this information is of assistance, and I thank the petitioners for their commitment to better road infrastructure in their local community.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'S Miles', is positioned above the typed name.

DR STEVEN MILES MP
Acting Minister for Main Roads, Road Safety and Ports