



Minister for Transport and Main Roads

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21 April 2021

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

Dear Mr Laurie

I refer to petition 3454-21 lodged with the Legislative Assembly on 23 March 2021 about a merge lane between King Street and D'Aguilar Highway, Moodlu.

As previously advised in my responses to petition 3354-20 on 1 December 2020, and petitions 3306-20 and 3324-20 on 18 May 2020, the Department of Transport and Main Roads (TMR) has investigated the request for an acceleration lane to assist vehicles turning left from King Street onto the D'Aguilar Highway. As part of this investigation, TMR identified the Lord Lane intersection would be located near the end of the acceleration lane, introducing unacceptable safety risks. The investigation concluded the requested merge lane was not a feasible treatment.

Previous planning looked at extending Lord Lane to Williams Road and closing the existing intersection. Relocating the Lord Lane intersection further west, as suggested by the petitioners, does not align with early planning. The proposal to make Lord Lane left-in/left-out is acknowledged, but would result in impacts for residents to find a safe U-turn location elsewhere on the network. There are no safe and convenient locations for residents to perform a U-turn, and no locations suitable for heavy vehicles to turn.

As there is high demand for intersection upgrades across Queensland, it is essential to prioritise investment across the State to areas of greatest need where it will create the largest positive impact. As previously advised, priorities and upgrade treatments are determined by consideration of site-specific factors that include recorded crash history, traffic volumes, road geometry and visibility. Locations with a high recorded crash history (using data from the Queensland Police Service) are prioritised over locations with a low recorded crash history.

Based on a review of crash data over the last five years, the intersection of King Street and the D'Aguilar Highway is not a priority for upgrade. There are no recorded accidents observed between through traffic and vehicles entering from King Street during this five-year period. I can assure you TMR will continue to monitor this intersection as part of routine operations and assess its suitability for upgrade in future.

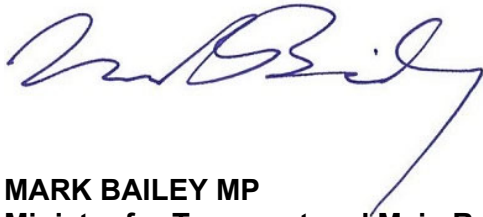
I can also advise that TMR recently completed design on a \$12 million project to improve road safety on a four-kilometre section of the D'Aguilar Highway between west of Lord Lane at Moodlu and Wamuran township. The road safety improvements will include widening the road to accommodate a painted, one-metre-wide centreline treatment with audible markings. There will also be improvements at the Franks Lane and Bye Road (western end) intersections to provide dedicated right-turn lanes. Roadside vegetation clearing will be undertaken at key locations to improve motorists' sight lines and reduce roadside hazards, and new signage to reinforce overtaking rules will also be installed. Construction is expected to start from mid-2021, weather and construction scheduling permitting.

In terms of planning for future upgrades, the Palaszczuk Government has allocated a total of \$32.255 million for works on the D'Aguilar Highway within the *Queensland Transport and Roads Investment Program 2020–21 to 2023–24*. Funding of \$650,000 was allocated to undertake high-level corridor planning along the D'Aguilar Highway between Caboolture Connection Road in Moodlu and Kilcoy–Beerwah Road in Woodford. This planning started in 2018, and has identified potential future upgrades on this section of the highway to address anticipated traffic growth.

If you require further information about this matter, I encourage you to contact TMR's North Coast Region by email at northcoast@tmr.qld.gov.au or by telephone on 5451 7055.

I trust this information is of assistance.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Mark Bailey', with a long, sweeping underline that extends to the right and then curves downwards.

MARK BAILEY MP
Minister for Transport and Main Roads