



Minister for Transport and Main Roads

Our ref: PET 43591
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4 January 2022

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

Dear Mr Laurie

I refer to petitions 3660-21 and 3632-21, lodged with the Legislative Assembly by Mr Jon Krause MP, Member for Scenic Rim on 30 November 2021 and 2 December 2021 requesting an upgrade of Harpers Crossing bridge on Mount Alford Road.

There is currently no funding allocated in the *Queensland Transport and Roads Investment Program 2021–22 to 2024–25* to undertake major works to construct a second lane on the Harpers Crossing bridge. As there is high demand for bridge 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. Unfortunately, there are currently numerous sites throughout Queensland that require safety improvements more urgently. Please be assured that prioritising locations for available road safety funding does not diminish their significance. The Department of Transport and Main Roads (TMR) takes road safety concerns raised by the local community seriously and will continue to monitor the location.

Earlier this year, TMR conducted a thorough road safety investigation of Harpers Crossing, including assessing the traffic flow, crash history and the positioning of existing signage. Action was taken to relocate the 'Give Way Ahead' and 'Narrow Bridge, One Lane' signage to locations that improved legibility and visibility of the signage for motorists. TMR advises the signage placement complies with current standards and guidelines for a one lane bridge. In addition, line marking was refreshed at Harpers Crossing to reinforce the one lane status of the bridge, and a follow-up inspection noted visibility of the line markings has been substantially improved.

A road surface inspection was also conducted on Mount Alford Road and bridge maintenance works at Harpers Crossing were completed in December 2021. Maintenance works to replace some timber girders on Oakey Creek, the structure next to Harpers Crossing, is expected to be completed by the end of January 2022, weather permitting.

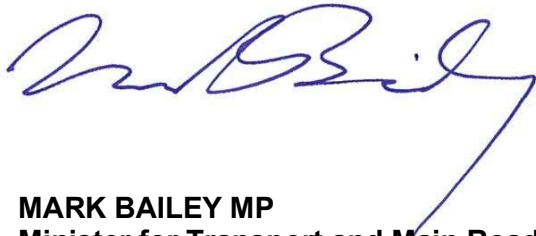
While the Queensland Government strives to make roads as safe as possible, it is not always possible to mitigate issues resulting from inconsiderate driver behaviour, such as failing to give way to oncoming motorists. TMR will continue to monitor Mount Alford Road and Harpers Crossing and undertake regular inspections, maintenance and preservation activities as required to ensure the safety of all road users.

The Palaszczuk Government is delivering its sixth record transport and roads infrastructure program in a row, outlining \$27.5 billion in investment over the next four years and estimated to support an average of 24,000 direct jobs over the life of the program. Of this, \$4.806 billion is committed across TMR's South Coast Region, which is estimated to support an average of 4030 direct jobs over the life of the program.

Queensland's world-leading pandemic response has made it the place to be and, to support the State's population boom, significant road upgrades are being delivered as part of *Queensland's COVID-19 Economic Recovery Plan*. With the Brisbane 2032 Olympics and Paralympics on the horizon, these upgrades provide immediate economic benefits, support more jobs and deliver ongoing benefits of vital infrastructure for years to come.

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