



Minister for Transport and Main Roads

Our ref: PET 45236
Your ref: A863903

9 June 2022

1 William Street Brisbane 4000
GPO Box 2644 Brisbane
Queensland 4001 Australia
Telephone +61 7 3719 7300
Email transportandmainroads@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 3646-21, lodged with the Legislative Assembly on 10 May 2022 about level crossing safety.

The Palaszczuk Government is committed to delivering a modern, efficient, reliable, and safe transport system that meets customer expectations now and into the future. Improvement and treatment of level crossings is an important part of this future transport system.

The Department of Transport and Main Roads (TMR) has undertaken planning to assess 65 level crossings on the South East Queensland (SEQ) rail network. This planning is informed by many issues, including safety, accessibility, road network performance and planned changes on the rail network with the commencement of Cross River Rail. This work informs the priority of each level crossing for further investigation and future funding consideration.

The Palaszczuk Government continues to progress—as a matter of priority—planning for the treatment of level crossings at Beams Road, Carseldine; Boundary Road, Coopers Plains and at the Kianawah Road, Wynnum West crossing at Lindum Station.

Planning and projects are currently underway to improve travel times and increase network capacity and efficiency across the rail network in SEQ. This includes between Brisbane and the Gold Coast as part of the Logan and Gold Coast Faster Rail project (five level crossings) and Beerburrum to Nambour (four level crossings), where consideration of targeted level crossing removals as part of broader project investigations is continuing.

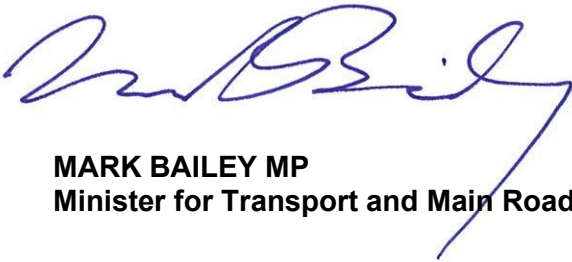
The Palaszczuk Government supports the development of a level crossing program for SEQ, jointly planned, and funded across all levels of government, ensuring ongoing investment to upgrade all level crossings. Adopting a program approach to level crossings would ensure the best outcomes are achieved to improve the performance, safety, and resilience of the transport network for all users, representing best value for the community.

As part of the recently released South East Queensland City Deal, TMR will work with the Australian Government, Queensland Rail, and local governments to deliver a level crossing prioritisation project to identify and agree on high priority level crossings in SEQ for further detailed investigation. While there are no plans to close or upgrade the Wilston Road, Newmarket level crossing at this time, this location would be considered along with other level crossings in this joint project.

Regarding the replacement of the Frederick Street bridge, Queensland Rail undertook community engagement prior to the full closure of the bridge in early 2020, which had been open only to pedestrians and cyclists since 2012. This engagement took place with community members, bridge users, residents and bike user groups, alongside collaboration with Brisbane City Council. These engagement sessions identified that the community wanted a replacement structure at this location to reinstate pedestrian and cycle connections only. Queensland Rail continues to work closely with Brisbane City Council on the design of the Frederick Street bridge and once finalised, will release the design to the community.

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