



Minister for Transport and Main Roads

Our ref: PET 43570
Your ref: A792127

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

1 December 2021

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

Dear Mr Laurie

I refer to petition 3653-21 lodged with the Legislative Assembly by Ms Ann Leahy MP, Member for Warrego on 18 November 2021 about raising the Paroo River bridge at Eulo by 1.3 metres.

The Department of Transport and Main Roads (TMR) is aware of the impact and disruption to communities and essential travel when flooding events within the Paroo River System result in the closure of the Paroo River bridge at Eulo. TMR policy is to close the Paroo River Bridge when water levels reach 300mm. In some cases, where the water is flowing, TMR will close the bridge at a lower depth. This policy is to ensure the safety of road users and the general public.

I am advised that in March 2010, the bridge was closed for 31 days, which was the longest recorded period in the past 11 years. I am also advised that when a flood event is likely to occur in the Paroo River System, communities receive advance notice via the Bureau of Meteorology so that they may prepare and gather supplies. TMR works with the Local Disaster Management Group which is responsible for coordinating support for local communities needing medicine and food resupply.

Regarding Paroo Shire Council's (PSC) flood boat launch depth requirements, in September 2020, it was announced that PSC had received funding of \$150,762 from the Queensland Reconstruction Authority to build a flood boat channel parallel to the bridge to enable launches at a lower depth. If petitioners require further information on this project, I encourage them to contact PSC via email at council@paroo.qld.gov.au.

TMR will continue to work with PSC and the Queensland Police Service to establish a process for certain vehicles to operate during flooding events so the community has access to essential resources where safe to do so.

I trust this information is of assistance.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Mark Bailey', written over a white background.

MARK BAILEY MP
Minister for Transport and Main Roads