



Minister for Transport and Main Roads

Our ref: PET 45247
Your ref: A865068

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10 June 2022

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

Dear Mr Laurie

I refer to petition 3727-22, lodged with the Legislative Assembly by Mr Michael Crandon MP, Member for Coomera on 11 May 2022 about Yatala North Interchange (Exit 38) off the M1 Pacific Motorway.

It is acknowledged that the M1 between the Gold Coast and Brisbane is Queensland's busiest road. To address current congestion on the M1—and the future transport demands of a growing population in this region—the Palaszczuk Government has committed over \$2.95 billion in joint funding to a program of M1 upgrades in Logan and on the Gold Coast to improve safety, increase capacity and to provide a consistent standard of road.

On the northern Gold Coast, the \$82.137 million Yatala South Interchange (Exit 41) upgrade project is currently underway. This will deliver significant improvements in safety and traffic flow by keeping traffic moving through the improved interchange, thereby reducing queuing. The upgrade includes the construction of a new bridge across the M1 with additional lanes, the upgrade of roundabouts to traffic signals, the relocation and lengthening of on-ramps and off-ramps and a southbound slip lane for traffic heading to the industrial areas north east of the interchange. The upgrade is progressing well and is currently expected to be completed by the end of this year, weather permitting. Once completed, this upgrade will assist traffic flows in the greater Yatala area.

A \$20 million upgrade of the southbound off-ramp at Ormeau Interchange (Exit 45) is also underway and will improve motorist safety by reducing queuing on the M1, and to the surrounding road network including Lahrs Road. The project will ease congestion, reduce travel times, and improve safety through a new signalised intersection at Lahrs Road and Zupp Drive. A new left-turn slip lane and acceleration lane to the existing Exit 45 southbound off-ramp will also be constructed. This will allow traffic bound for the Yatala industrial precinct to bypass the eastern interchange roundabout. Eastbound motorists heading towards Norwell and Jacobs Well will also be able to bypass the eastern interchange by travelling from the off-ramp and along Zupp Drive.

Later this year, the \$110.768 million Pimpama Interchange (Exit 49) upgrade is also due to commence. This project will deliver significant improvements in safety and traffic flow efficiency by keeping traffic moving through the improved interchange, thereby reducing queuing. The upgrade includes a new bridge across the M1 with additional lanes, removal of existing roundabouts and installation of traffic signals, and the relocation of on-ramps and off-ramps away from the main interchange, with signalised intersections that will work in coordination with the rest of the interchange.

These M1 interchange projects have been funded by the Australian and Queensland governments on a 50:50 basis. The Queensland Government will consider opportunities to fund the upgrade of Yatala North interchange (Exit 38), in partnership with the Australian Government, as part of future *Queensland Transport and Roads Investment Program* development and national partnering agreements.

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 the Department of Transport and Main Roads' South Coast's 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



MARK BAILEY MP
Minister for Transport and Main Roads