



Minister for Transport and Main Roads

Our ref: PET 46301
Your ref: A925572

13 September 2022

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

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

Dear Mr Laurie

I refer to petition 3746-22, lodged with the Legislative Assembly on 16 August 2022 about the draft Southern Sunshine Coast Public Transport Strategy.

The Department of Transport and Main Roads (TMR) takes an integrated approach to transport planning which considers land use and transport in a holistic manner. The *South East Queensland Regional Plan 2017* (ShapingSEQ) outlines the statutory regional framework for growth and establishes planning objectives for sustainability, global competitiveness, and a high quality of living. It highlights the importance of future transport links in supporting growth in the region and across the State.

To align and integrate with ShapingSEQ, TMR's South East Queensland (SEQ) Regional Transport Plans 2021 have been prepared as the transport planning response. These set out priorities and actions for developing our transport system in a way that achieves regional goals for the community, environment and economy. Regional transport plans now cover the entire State and can be found on TMR's website online at www.tmr.qld.gov.au/About-us/Corporate-information/Publications/Regional-Transport-Plans.

Within this planning context, TMR has delivered the draft Southern Sunshine Coast Public Transport Strategy (the Strategy). The Strategy was published on TMR's website on 16 February 2022 for community and stakeholder feedback, which closed on 16 March 2022.

The Strategy focuses on the southern Sunshine Coast sub-region, noting this is where the majority of current and expected additional 500,000 new residents and 85,000 jobs on the Sunshine Coast will be located. The Strategy is anchored by three north-south spine routes that have been referred to as 'rapid connections'. These are supported and linked by key connectors, several of which run east-west. This network is then overlaid by other high frequency and connector routes as well as more than 250 kilometres of local routes, providing a connected network for the region. It is anticipated that investigation and strategy development for the further areas of the Moreton and Sunshine Coast regions will be instigated over the next decade, on a priority/needs basis.

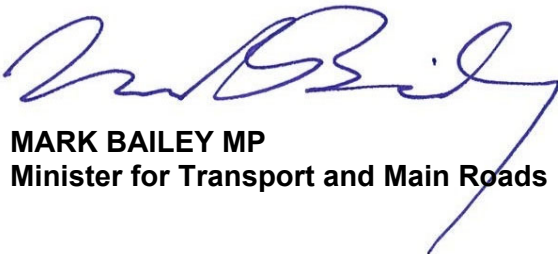
While the population growth is predominantly expected in the southern Sunshine Coast sub-region, TMR continues to monitor areas of growth across the entire Sunshine Coast region to determine areas that require service improvements. It is currently planning bus route improvements to growth areas in northern areas of the Sunshine Coast, which will be announced as implementation plans are finalised.

The Palaszczuk Government is delivering its seventh record transport and roads infrastructure program in a row, as detailed in the *Queensland Transport and Roads Investment Program 2022–23 to 2025–26*, which outlines \$29.7 billion in investment over the next four years and is estimated to support an average of 25,200 direct jobs over the life of the program. Of this, \$3.079 billion is committed across TMR's North Coast Region, estimated to support an average of 2700 direct jobs over the life of the program. Investment in planning and delivery of heavy rail is at record levels which includes delivery of Stage 1 of the Beerburrum to Nambour Upgrade Project (Beerburrum to Landsborough) and planning for Stage 2 (Landsborough to Nambour).

The Australian and Queensland governments, along with Sunshine Coast Council, have also committed \$5 million each towards the \$15 million development of a detailed business case for an integrated urban public transport solution for the Sunshine Coast.

I trust this information is of assistance.

Yours sincerely



MARK BAILEY MP
Minister for Transport and Main Roads