



Minister for Transport and Main Roads
Minister for Digital Services

Our ref: PET50490
Your ref: A1147848

18 September 2023

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

Dear Mr Laurie

I refer to petition 3889-23, lodged with the Legislative Assembly by Mr Mark Boothman MP, Member for Theodore on 22 August 2023 about improving sound barriers near motorways by incorporating caps into the design.

The Department of Transport and Main Roads (TMR) manages operational road traffic and construction noise under the Transport Noise Management Code of Practice (the Code). The Code guides the direction for assessment, design and management of the impact of road traffic noise and construction noise.

TMR is finalising noise monitoring along the Coomera Connector Stage 1 corridor. The noise monitoring determines baseline noise levels, and the subsequent noise assessment informs mitigation measures including the height, design and placement of noise barriers.

While some research has taken place regarding the use of novel caps on top of noise barriers, the results are theoretical and yet to be validated. Caps are not being considered as similar results can be achieved more cost effectively, and with less ongoing maintenance, by increasing the height of the barrier.

The Palaszczuk Government is delivering its eighth record transport and roads infrastructure program in a row, as detailed in the *Queensland Transport and Roads Investment Program 2023–24 to 2026–27*, which outlines \$32.1 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, \$5.504 billion is committed across TMR's South Coast Region, estimated to support an average of 4130 direct jobs over the life of the program.

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
Minister for Digital Services