

## Minister for Transport and Main Roads Minister for Digital Services

Our ref: PET 50489 Your ref: A1147849

14 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 3940-23 and 3924-23, lodged with the Legislative Assembly by Mr Trevor Watts MP, Member for Toowoomba North on 22 August 2023 about the proposed Toowoomba North South transport corridor.

The Department of Transport and Main Roads (TMR) is consulting on the proposal and engaging with a wide group of stakeholders, including industry, council, State agencies, landowners, interest groups and the general public. The consultation phase—which includes opportunities for feedback through various channels—has been extended at my request to 13 October 2023 to ensure the community has enough time to provide input. I have asked TMR to consider this petition as part of that input.

Consultation information will be considered by TMR before any decision is made on the next steps for this important project. TMR will keep the community informed of progress with the proposed corridor.

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, \$820 million is committed across TMR's Darling Downs District, estimated to support an average of 830 direct jobs over the life of the program.

I trust this information is of assistance.

Yours sincerely

MARK BAILEY MP

Minister for Transport and Main Roads

Minister for Digital Services /