

Our ref: MC12831

Your ref: 434-05

Mr Neil Laurie
The Clerk of the Parliament
Parliament House
George Street
Brisbane Qld 4000

Dear Mr Laurie

**Re: Petition received by the Queensland Legislative Assembly No. 434-05
Better signage at intersection of the Kennedy Highway
and Kairi Road (Main Street), Tolga**

I refer to a petition lodged with the Legislative Assembly by Ms Rosa Lee Long MP, Member for Tablelands, on 23 February 2005, requesting better signage at the intersection of the Kennedy Highway and Kairi Road (Main Street) at Tolga.

Officers of the Department of Main Roads are aware of community concerns regarding safety at the intersection. Operation of the intersection was recently assessed, including signage, traffic volumes and movements, visibility to approaching vehicles and accident statistics.

Generally, visibility at the intersection was found to be acceptable and signage was adequate. Main Roads accident data suggests that most of the accidents have been the result of driver error, not the intersection layout.

However, Main Roads has found some minor improvements, including signage, can be made to improve motorists' awareness of the intersection. I am advised these will be carried out by the end of June 2005. Main Roads will change the line marking and traffic islands to better define turning movements. New "Give Way" signs will be installed at the intersection and advance "Give Way" warning signs before the intersection will also be installed on Main Street to improve drivers' awareness of the intersection, in particular, to alert them that they are entering the main traffic stream on the Kennedy Highway.

Main Roads will continue to monitor safety at the intersection to assess the effectiveness of these improvements in reducing accidents due to driver error. Given the current low accident rates and traffic volumes at this intersection, compared with others on the State-controlled Road Network, Main Roads could not justify diverting funding away from other locations in greater need of upgrading, to construct a roundabout, as suggested.

Yours sincerely

PAUL LUCAS MP
Minister for Transport and Main Roads