



Hon. Paul Lucas MP



Queensland
Government

Our ref: MC12308

Your ref: No 441-05

Minister for
Transport and Main Roads

20 APR 2005

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

Dear Mr Laurie *Neil*

Re: Petition No 441-05 - Stewart Road interchange

I refer to a petition lodged with the Legislative Assembly by Ms Jann Stuckey MP, Member for Currumbin, on 8 March 2005 about the traffic situation at the newly constructed Stewart Road interchange.

The Stewart Road interchange is an important project for the people of the Gold Coast as it removes the last set of traffic signals on the Pacific Motorway between Brisbane and the Gold Coast.

The detailed nature of the project meant that the final traffic arrangements could not be implemented in the early stages without compromising the safety of motorists and construction workers. The project has therefore involved a series of phased traffic switches and the specific road conditions referred to in the petition were always meant to be temporary.

Safety has been a prime concern throughout construction. Restricted speed limits have been applied, variable message boards were used to notify motorists of temporary arrangements and local speed enforcement was carried out by the Queensland Police Service.

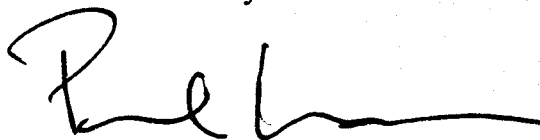
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Completion of the merge arrangements was scheduled for February 2005; however, final completion occurred in mid March 2005 due to weather conditions. Under the final traffic arrangements now in place, traffic heading east over the overpass from Stewart Road has its own dedicated lane without having to merge with the southbound motorway traffic. The design merging distance for northbound traffic has now been implemented and the two southbound traffic lanes on the Pacific Motorway have a left-lane merge.

The concrete barriers referred to in the petition have also been progressively removed over the past two months as the final traffic arrangements were implemented.

I trust this information clarifies the final traffic arrangements at this interchange.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Paul Lucas', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

PAUL LUCAS MP

Minister for Transport and Main Roads