



Hon. Paul Lucas MP



Queensland
Government

Our ref: MC28031

Your ref: 775-07

Minister for
Transport and Main Roads

2 MAR 2007

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

Dear Mr Laurie

Re: Petition No. 775-07

Request for on- and off-ramps at Nineteenth Avenue, Elanora

I refer to a petition lodged with the Legislative Assembly by Mrs Jann Stuckey MP, Member for Currumbin, on 7 February 2007 about a request for on- and off-ramps at Nineteenth Avenue, Elanora.

The Queensland Government has committed \$427m over five years for the upgrade of the Pacific Motorway between the Gateway and Logan Motorways and between Nerang and Tugun. A matching contribution from the federal government is urgently required to progress these projects.

An immediate announcement of funding for the Pacific Motorway upgrade would be most welcome by the state government and Gold Coast residents.

Despite this current lack of federal funding commitment, the Department of Main Roads is developing concept options for the Pacific Motorway upgrade from Nerang to Tugun. Concept design planning for the section between Nerang South and Varsity Lakes is due to be completed by late 2007. Concept design for the southern section, between Varsity Lakes and Tugun will commence in 2008. This will allow a whole-of-government approach to planning an integrated road/rail traffic solution for this section.

A key objective of the planning study is to develop a strategy encouraging local traffic to use local service roads, with through traffic to use the motorway. Community consultation is continuing and concept design options are programmed to go on public display in late May 2007.

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As part of the motorway upgrade, several interchanges will also be improved. Design for the additional overpass at Nerang South (Nielsens Road) and land acquisitions are complete and tenders for construction could be called immediately if federal funding was forthcoming. The preliminary design for the Mudgeeraba interchange is underway and detailed design is programmed for late 2007, allowing for tenders to be called in late 2007 or early 2008.

Community requests regarding the introduction of on- and off-ramps northbound on the Pacific Motorway at Nineteenth Avenue will be considered in the development of these preliminary concept options. However, restrictions on interchange spacing, based on current motorway design standards, are a constraint which needs to be considered in the evaluation of any new ramp locations.

The second phase of community engagement, scheduled to commence later this year, will enable the community to comment on the preliminary options developed at that location.

The upgrade of the Pacific Motorway has the support of State Labor Members of Parliament, Councillor Ron Clarke and Councillor David Power of Gold Coast City Council, as well as the RACQ. It is worth noting that Gold Coast residents are paying an estimated \$330m each year in fuel tax, but are missing out on a fair share of federal funding for Gold Coast roads.

I therefore encourage petitioners to lobby state and federal Liberal Members of Parliament to support the state government in securing funds from the federal government to proceed with the much needed upgrade. The relevant contact details are provided for your information.

Yours sincerely

PAUL LUCAS MP
Minister for Transport and Main Roads

Enc (1)

State MPs Contact Details

Mrs Jan Stuckey	Member for Currumbin	PO Box 742 Palm Beach Qld 4221 Ph: 5598 1387
Mr Ray Stevens	Member for Robina	PO Box 1056 Broadbeach Qld 4218 Ph: 5592 0071
Mr John-Paul Landbroek	Member for Surfers Paradise	PO Box 80 Isle of Capri Qld 4217 Ph: 5538 9833

Federal MPs Contact Details

Mr Steven Ciobo	Member for Moncrieff	PO Box 2040 Southport Qld 4215 Ph: 5591 1011
Mrs Margaret May	Member for McPherson	PO Box 291 Palm Beach Qld 4221 Ph: 5525 0688
Mrs Kay Elson	Member for Forde	PO Box 1414 Beenleigh Qld 4207 Ph: 3807 6340
The Honourable David Jull	Member for Fadden	PO Box 213 Oxenford Qld 4210 Ph: 5580 0355