



Hon. Paul Lucas MP



Queensland
Government

Our ref: MC30322

Minister for
Transport and Main Roads

04 JUL 2007

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



LAI'D UPON THE TABLE OF THE HOUSE
THE CLERK OF THE PARLIAMENT

Dear Mr Laurie

Re: Petitions received by the Queensland Legislative Assembly

Thank you for your letters of 24 May 2007 with petitions No. 820-07 and No. 830-07 from the Burrum Heads Blue Water Boat Club, requesting that the State liaise with Hervey Bay City Council about the need for a new boat launching facility at Lions Park at Burrum Heads.

Queensland Transport (QT) operates a Boating Infrastructure Capital and Maintenance Program (BICMP) that provides recreational boating facilities throughout Queensland. The BICMP is a cooperative program between QT and Local Governments. Under this program, the Local Government must justify to itself the need for facilities and provide the land based facilities, such as road access and car/trailer parking. QT provides the boat ramp structure part of the project.

To have a project proposal accepted on the BICMP, Council must submit a project proposal to QT that conforms to policy and agrees to provide the land based infrastructure for the facility.

QT officers have advised that for a number of years now, there has been talk of a new boat ramp proposal in the vicinity of Lions Park but an exact location has never been identified and a formal submission from Hervey Bay City Council has not been received. Until a formal submission for this project has been received, QT cannot proceed further as any proposal must be initiated by Council.

I am also advised that the Burrum Heads estuary in the vicinity of Lions Park and upstream is severely shoaled with large mobile sand masses. For this reason it will be difficult to justify significant expenditure on a facility that is only useable for part of the tide and subject to variable shoaling with likely initial and ongoing dredging needed.

85 George Street Brisbane
GPO Box 2644 Brisbane
Queensland 4001 Australia
Telephone +61 7 3237 1111
Facsimile +61 7 3224 4242
Email transport@ministerial.qld.gov.au

However, to achieve some level of upgrade to facilities at Burrum Heads, Council have recently made a submission to the BICMP for widening of the boat ramp at the end of Burrum Heads Road to two lanes, with car/trailer parking to be upgraded by Council. This submission has been assessed by QT and QT regional staff are working with Council to update their submission to meet all QT policy requirements.

In 2005, QT spent \$75 000 on upgrading this boat ramp to an elevated structure which allows the moving sand to be transported under the ramp instead of being deposited at the toe. This has increased the useability of the ramp making launching and retrieval of vessels safer and easier.

Queensland Transport has responded to Mr Cardiff directly and a copy is attached for your information.

In order to assist Mr Cardiff with the realisation of an all-weather boat ramp in the vicinity of Lions Park, QT has advised that he may wish make a submission to the Federal Government's Recreational Fishing Community Grants Programme that provides funding for community recreational fishing infrastructure projects. Information on this programme can be obtained from their website www.daff.gov.au/recfishinggrants or by phoning 1800 665 105.

I trust this information clarifies Queensland Transport's position on this matter. If you require any further information, please call Mr Peter Wood, A/Manager (Infrastructure Projects) on 3117 5654. Mr Wood will be pleased to assist.

Yours sincerely

PAUL LUCAS MP
Minister for Transport and Main Roads

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Hon. Paul Lucas MP



**Queensland
Government**

Our ref: MC30191

Minister for
Transport and Main Roads

27 JUN 2007

Mr Bill Cardiff
Chairman
Boat Ramp Committee
Burrum Heads Blue Water Boat Club
20 Orchid Drive
Burrum Heads Qld 4659

Dear Mr Cardiff

Re: new all-weather boat ramp at Burrum Heads

Thank you for your letter of 2 April 2007 to the Honourable Andrew Fraser MP, Minister for Local Government, Planning and Sport requesting an additional all-weather boat ramp in the Lions Park area of Burrum Heads. Your letter was forwarded to the Minister for Transport and Main Roads, the Honourable Paul Lucas MP as the Minister responsible for the provision of recreational boating infrastructure. The Minister has asked that I reply on his behalf.

Queensland Transport (QT) operates a Boating Infrastructure Capital and Maintenance Program (BICMP) that provides recreational boating facilities throughout Queensland. The BICMP is a cooperative program between QT and Local Governments. Under this program, the Local Government must justify to itself the need for facilities and provide the land based facilities, such as road access and car/trailer parking. QT provides the boat ramp structure part of the project.

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I am also advised that the Burrum Heads estuary in the vicinity of Lions Park and upstream is severely shoaled with large mobile sand masses. For this reason it will be difficult to justify significant expenditure on a facility that is only useable for part of the tide and subject to variable shoaling with likely initial and ongoing dredging needed.

In 2005, QT spent \$75 000 on upgrading the Burrum Heads Road boat ramp to an elevated structure which allows the moving sand to be transported under the ramp instead of being deposited at the toe. This has increased the useability of the ramp making launching and retrieval of vessels safer and easier.

Please be assured that the State Government is committed to better public boating facilities and services, providing a total annual outlay of approximately \$28m in 2005-06, compared with annual revenue from boating registrations of \$12.4m during the same period.

In order to assist you with the realisation of an all-weather boat ramp in the vicinity of Lions Park, you may wish make a submission to the Federal Government's Recreational Fishing Community Grants Programme that provides funding for community recreational fishing infrastructure projects. Information on this programme can be obtained from their website www.daff.gov.au/recfishinggrants or by phoning 1800 665 105.

I trust this information clarifies Queensland Transport's position on this matter. If you require any further information, please call Mr Peter Wood, A/Manager (Infrastructure Projects) on 3117 5654. Mr Wood will be pleased to assist.

Yours sincerely

PAUL SORENSEN
Senior Policy Advisor