



Hon. Paul Lucas MP



Queensland
Government

Our ref: MC30535: MC31811

Your ref: 843-07; 862-07

Minister for
Transport and Main Roads

- 7 SEP 2007

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

Dear Mr Laurie

Re: Petition No. 843-07 and 862-07 - Nambour - Mapleton Road

I refer to petitions lodged with the Legislative Assembly by Mr Peter Wellington MP, Member for Nicklin, on 6 June and 8 August 2007 requesting an upgrade to sections of the Nambour -Mapleton Road and prioritisation of the upgrade of an unofficial pull-off lane.

I am advised the Department of Main Roads has commenced planning for pavement rehabilitation and widening of a section of Nambour - Mapleton Road from Willandra Place to Mapleton. *The Roads Implementation Program 2007-08 to 2011-12 (RIP)* includes an indicative forward allocation of \$3.1m for this project.

Main Roads has engaged consultant SMEC Australia Pty Ltd to undertake planning for this work.

The scope of the project will include:

- pavement rehabilitation
- pavement widening to provide sealed shoulders
- safety improvements to intersections
- other minor improvements such as the construction of bus stops.

I am also advised that to convert the existing unofficial pull-off area, on the approach to Mapleton into an additional climbing lane which complies with current safety standards, major earthworks, service relocations and possible land resumptions would be involved. Terminating the additional climbing lane at the entrance to Mapleton would also create a number of safety and engineering concerns that may result in further, quite significant impacts and costs.

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

Towards Mapleton, the Nambour - Mapleton Road carries less than 4 000 vehicles per day. There is an existing westbound overtaking lane near Dulong. Compared with many other state-controlled roads in the Sunshine Coast area, the priority for providing a further overtaking or climbing lane on the Nambour - Mapleton Road is low.

The \$3.1m project currently programmed on the Nambour - Mapleton Road is essential to reinstate the aging pavement and to improve safety by sealing shoulders and upgrading intersections. These works also have a higher priority than the construction of a second westbound climbing lane.

The Sunshine Coast region has been allocated a massive \$968m by the Queensland and Australian Governments in Main Roads' five year program. The demand for funding for road and transport related infrastructure is substantial and ever-increasing.

All up, more than \$560m will be spent on Sunshine Coast road projects within Caloundra City, Maroochy, Noosa and Cooloola shires over the next two years.

Road projects within the Nicklin electorate include two projects worth \$15.4m for Eumundi - Kenilworth Road:

- \$10.4m to construct the bridge and approaches at Belli Creek Crossing No 2, scheduled to start mid-2008 and finish mid-2009
- \$500 000 as part of \$5m widening from Archer Road to Belli Creek Crossing No 1, due to start mid-2009 and finish mid-2010.

Yours sincerely

PAUL LUCAS MP
Minister for Transport and Main Roads