



University of the  
Sunshine Coast  
Australia

Professor Helen Bartlett  
Vice-Chancellor and President

4 January 2024

Hon Bart Mellish MP  
Minister for Transport and Main Roads and Minister for Digital Services  
Queensland Government  
GPO Box 2644  
BRISBANE QLD 4001  
[transportandmainroads@ministerial.qld.gov.au](mailto:transportandmainroads@ministerial.qld.gov.au)

Dear Minister

I write to congratulate you on becoming Minister for Transport and Main Roads and Minister for Digital Services and to thank you for your positive engagement with the University of the Sunshine Coast (UniSC) throughout 2023 in your previous role as Assistant Minister for Veterans.

Not Relevant

Not Relevant

We also lodged a submission earlier this year in response to your Department's consultation on the four key Sunshine Coast transport projects i.e. Not Relevant

Not Relevant

Mooloolah River Interchange (MRI) Upgrade, Not Relevant

Not Relevant

Not Relevant

I look forward to our continued positive engagement with you during 2024 and would welcome an opportunity to meet with you early in 2024 to discuss your new portfolio, the above topics and how else UniSC may be able to assist with your priorities.

I have asked Jason Mills, UniSC's Head of Government Relations, to contact your office to schedule a meeting at your earliest convenience. If needed, Jason can be contacted on Not Relevant or

NR

[@usc.edu.au](mailto: @usc.edu.au).

Again, please accept my warm congratulations and I look forward to seeing you again soon.

Best regards

Not Relevant

Professor Helen Bartlett  
Vice-Chancellor and President

Our ref: MC142868

Professor Helen Bartlett  
Vice-Chancellor and President  
University of the Sunshine Coast  
vcoffice@usc.edu.au

Dear Professor Bartlett

Thank you for your letter of 4 January 2024 about transport issues on the Sunshine Coast and for your congratulations on my appointment as Minister for Transport and Main Roads and Minister for Digital Services.

My office will be in contact to schedule a meeting with you when I am next on the Sunshine Coast. Between July and August 2023, the Department of Transport and Main Roads (TMR) undertook community engagement for major road, rail and public transport projects including the <sup>NR</sup>

Not Relevant

Interchange Upgrade and <sup>NR</sup> I appreciate your interest in these projects and the time taken to make a submission during the consultation period. The feedback provided has been considered by TMR's project teams.

TMR recognises that a large portion of the students from the University of the Sunshine Coast (USC) are likely to rely on public transport to access its campuses. As such, TMR has carefully considered USC and other major centres and destinations as part of the *Southern Sunshine Coast Public Transport Strategy* which outlines the Queensland Government's vision for a public transport system to meet the future needs of the region.

As part of the strategy and planning being undertaken for the DSC and SCPT projects, I am pleased to advise that TMR is looking to introduce new bus routes, additional trips and longer operating hours to key destinations and areas across the Sunshine Coast, including USC. This improved bus network will better connect the community to stations and stops for the North Coast line, DSC and SCPT projects.

TMR looks forward to working with USC as we move forward on these projects and deliver an integrated transport network for Sunshine Coast communities.

I note your reference to your submission for the South East Queensland Regional Plan, *ShapingSEQ 2023*, prepared by the former Department of State Development, Infrastructure, Local Government and Planning (DSDILGP), now the Department of Housing, Local Government, Planning and Public Works (DHLGPPW) following recent Machinery of Government changes.

In the development of *ShapingSEQ 2023*, DSDILGP worked collaboratively with local governments and TMR, with a specific focus to update the existing 'Connect' theme to ensure a mobile and highly liveable region. TMR collaborated with DSDILGP to carry out analysis and modelling to ensure land use and transport planning integration and inform development of updated dwelling supply benchmarks. *ShapingSEQ 2023* identifies key Region Shaping Infrastructure that are fundamental to support the growth in South East Queensland.

Not Relevant

Contact officer	Tom Orr A/Executive Director (Statewide Transport Planning Management)
Telephone	3066 1431
Approved by	Myles Fairbairn A/General Manager (Transport Strategy and Planning)
Date of approval	22 January 2024
Endorsed by	Penny Ford A/Deputy Director- General (Policy, Planning and Investment)
Date of endorsement	23 January 2024
Endorsed by	Sally Stannard Director-General
Date of endorsement	25 January 2024

Not Relevant

By working closely with all levels of government and industry, we continue to deliver future investment that generates employment opportunities and helps keep communities well connected and thriving. I look forward to meeting with you, and my office will contact you to arrange a mutually convenient time to meet.

Yours sincerely

**BART MELLISH MP**  
**Minister for Transport and Main Roads**  
**Minister for Digital Services**

Released under RTI - QMR



# Fiona SIMPSON MP

Member for **Maroochydore**  
Shadow Minister for Finance and Better Regulation  
Shadow Minister for Integrity in Government



Ref: FS:sd/corr/transport/24

16 January 2024

Hon Bart Mellish  
Minister for Transport and Main Roads  
Minister for Digital Services  
Email: [transportandmainroads@minsterial.qld.gov.au](mailto:transportandmainroads@minsterial.qld.gov.au)

Dear Minister

## RE: MOOLOOLAH RIVER INTERCHANGE

I write in relation to the recently announced increased cost for the construction of the Mooloolah River Interchange (MRI) and the status of the project.

Stage One of the MRI was previously costed at \$320 million, with funding committed by both the State and Federal Government.

The MRI business case, which went to Infrastructure Australia as supplied by DTMR, assessed this project's costings on a P90 (90% chance of being accurate) level of assessment. The project had been assessed at an advanced level.

However, on 22 December 2023, the Queensland Government announced that the revised cost for the MRI was \$734.6 million. This is an increase of approximately 130 per cent, which is concerning that a project - particularly one with a P90 assessment by the Department - can more than double in cost without a satisfactory explanation or plan to resolve it.

On the basis of this alleged cost increase, with no further explanation, the Federal Government pulled their funding commitment.

The funding cut leaves the region in limbo, with proposed upgrades to one of the most dangerous black spots in the area unfunded, not to mention the impact of the number of homes already demolished and residents displaced for the project. The MRI is an important project for the Sunshine Coast not only for safety reasons, but for the service of the residents residing in one of the country's fastest growing regions and to unlock any of the public transport projects.

The four-lane section of Nicklin Way south of the Mooloolah River is currently carrying more than 70,000 vehicles per day and has an "F" level of service and this is set to get worse as the new SEQ Plan for the Sunshine Coast has a target of an additional 84,800 people by 2046 with many of these new residents to reside south of this river crossing.

Doing nothing with this pinch point and blackspot at the MRI as proposed by the State and Federal Government will grind two major Coast connectors to a halt and undermine the region's town plan,

economic development and people's safety. Public transport cannot be improved through this section without with the new bridges which were proposed in the MRI.

As this is an integral infrastructure project for the Sunshine Coast, I request your advice about:

- 1) what you plan to do to fix this congestion point and when;
- 2) why the cost for Stage 1 of the MRI has blown out by more than double;
- 3) has there been a scope change to the MRI which has exacerbated the cost blowout; and
- 4) has DTMR proposed a change to the MRI that have impacted outside of the corridors' existing Federal and/or State Environmental approvals?

I respectfully seek your advice and assistance.

Yours sincerely

Not Relevant

**Fiona Simpson MP**  
**Member for Maroochydore**  
**Shadow Minister for Finance and Better Regulation**  
**Shadow Minister for Integrity in Government**

Released under RTI - DTMR

## MCS Executive Services

**From:** TMR DLO  
**Sent:** Thursday, 25 January 2024 10:13 AM  
**To:** MCS Executive Services  
**Cc:** Hannah.Whittle@ministerial.qld.gov.au  
**Subject:** MC143023 | CB 25/01 - INCOMING CORRO: ONE POSSIBLE SOLUTION EMERGES from 3 merging Infrastructure problems on Sunshine Coast (SSC)  
**Attachments:** To QLD Transport Minister- Brief Quick Idea -SSC Marine Infrastructure= 24 Jan 2024.pdf  
**Sensitivity:** Confidential

<b>PREVIOUS</b>	
<b>CROSS REFERENCE</b>	MC125426, MC123435
<b>PRIORITY</b> – urgent/routine	Routine
<b>RESTRICTION</b>	
<b>FILE ID</b>	110/00872 (MC)
<b>ACCOUNTABLE AREA</b>	MSQ
<b>ACTION TO</b>	DocTrak.DD-G.CSSR
<b>TIMEFRAME</b> – 5, 10, 15 days or other	15 Days
<b>SUBJECT LINE</b>	Marine infrastructure on the Sunshine Coast
<b>SIGNATORY</b> Min/CoS/SPA/DG/DDG/GM Min's constituent/SHM/FYI Referral to another Minister/agency	GM
<b>ENQUIRER DETAILS</b>	Not Relevant
<b>NOTES</b>	

GM response pls.

X ref: MC125426/MC123435

Kind regards

**Melanie Walker**

Departmental Liaison Officer | Cabinet, Legislation and Executive Services  
Corporate Division | Governance Branch | Department of Transport and Main Roads

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[www.tmr.qld.gov.au](http://www.tmr.qld.gov.au)

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---

**From:** Transport and Main Roads <[TransportandMainRoads@ministerial.qld.gov.au](mailto:TransportandMainRoads@ministerial.qld.gov.au)>  
**Sent:** Thursday, 25 January 2024 10:08 AM  
**To:** TMR DLO <[TMR\\_DLO@tmr.qld.gov.au](mailto:TMR_DLO@tmr.qld.gov.au)>  
**Subject:** FW: URGENT QUICK BRIEF SUGGESTION- ONE POSSIBLE SOLUTION EMERGES from 3 merging Infrastructure problems on Sunshine Coast (SSC)  
**Importance:** High  
**Sensitivity:** Confidential

For processing.

Thanks



**Matt Swan**  
Admin Officer  
**Office of the Hon. Bart Mellish MP**  
Minister for Transport and Main Roads and Minister for Digital Services

P 07 3719 7319 | E [matt.swan@ministerial.qld.gov.au](mailto:matt.swan@ministerial.qld.gov.au)

**Queensland** | *Good jobs  
Better services  
Great lifestyle*

**From:** Not Relevant

**Sent:** Wednesday, January 24, 2024 5:44 PM

**To:** Transport and Main Roads <[TransportandMainRoads@ministerial.qld.gov.au](mailto:TransportandMainRoads@ministerial.qld.gov.au)>

**Subject:** URGENT QUICK BRIEF SUGGESTION- ONE POSSIBLE SOLUTION EMERGES from 3 merging Infrastructure problems on Sunshine Coast (SSC)

**Importance:** High

**Sensitivity:** Confidential

**Attached -6-page Confidential Pictorial Powerpoint**

**To the Hon Bart Mellish** Qld Transport Minister

I spoke to "Michell" in your office yesterday about sending this.

Unsure if you as the new Transport Minister would be interested in this idea however critical timing approaches -Its intended to be helpful quick brief, preparatory. More info is available but still being finalised after extensive research.

Not Relevant

**PROBLEM 3**—Recent Federal Government Scandal- Houses reclaimed for the MRI (Mooloolah River Interchange) were levelled late last year just weeks before [Federal LABOR cancelled funding](#) (or delayed it), for the MRI.



**SOLUTION Part-1** - Up-river of the bridges, riverside land is available (plus that depopulated for the MRI). This land beside the MRI/roadway (otherwise wasted) could be used (i.e. scavenged) for future “small boat” ramp/s.

**A Hindrance** – Unfortunately, it’s currently planned on the MRI as “inaccessible” from the road. **That Fix** -It needs to be re-assigned/made “accessible” *from the road*.

**SOLUTION Part-2** – The 3<sup>rd</sup> “small boat” ramp upgrade at Outrigger Park needs reassignment as a new “large Vessel” slipway (and expressions of interested asked for further development.) If an MRI can be cancelled surely this isn’t impossible.

Regards

NR

Not Relevant

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Released under RTI/ATMR

The upgraded Outrigger Park boat ramp re-assigned to "Large vessel" slipway & further developed. Then vacant land beside the MRI, currently "inaccessable," could be used for "Small Boat" Ramp/s



Mooloolah River interchange Upgrade fly-through

TMRQld  
6.84K subscribers

Subscribe

41 | Share | Save

20K views 3 months ago

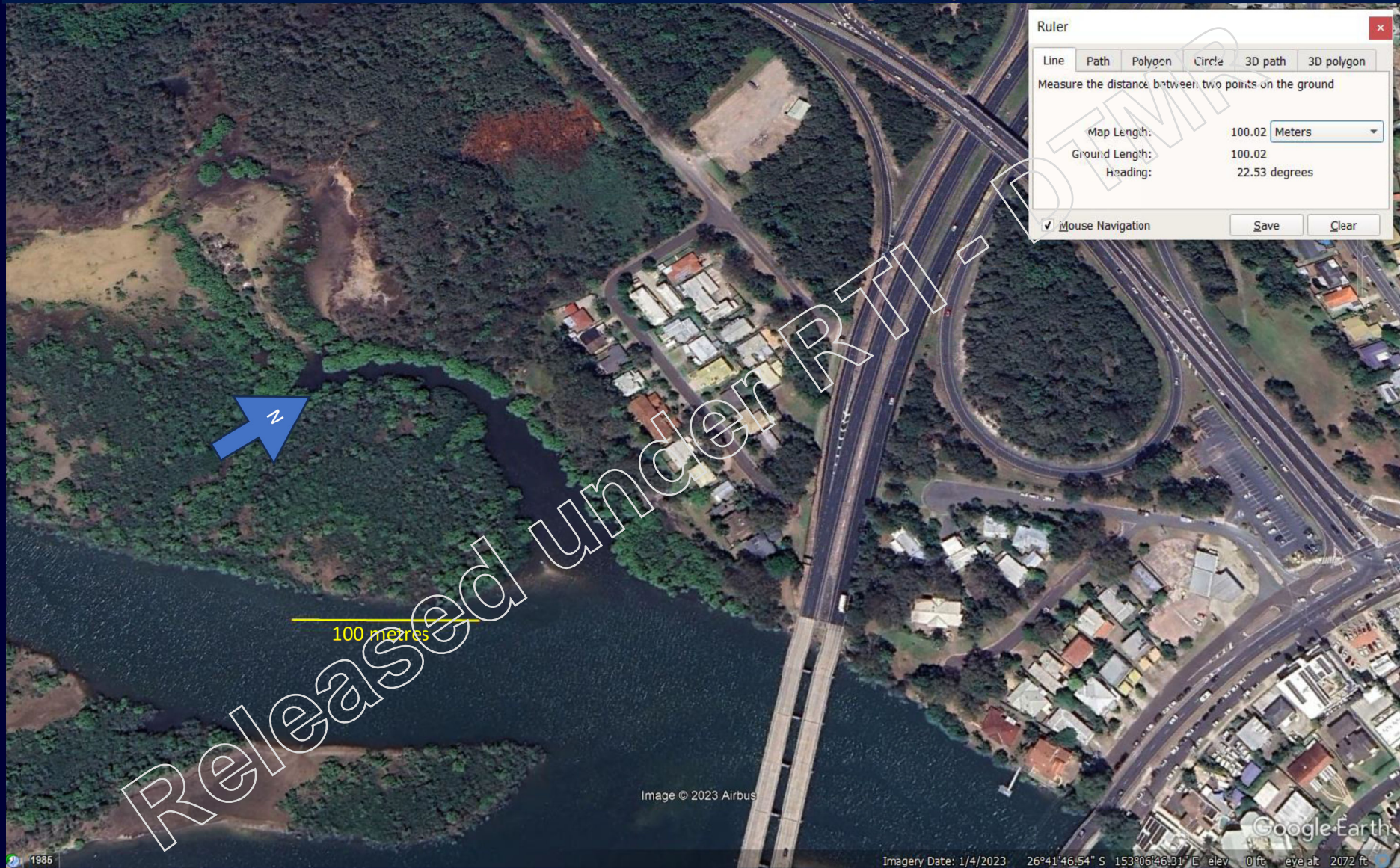
**Urgent Infrastructure Overdue on the Sunshine Coast- Riverside land site Down-river of Bridges for new Modern "Shiplift/Sealift" slipway for Large Vessels >18 metres (multi-hulls and tall masts)  
At least 100 Tonne and 10 metre Beam capacity**



Not Relevant

Released under RTI - DTMR

# This shows the Site size of area around the "MRI" adjacent to Outrigger Park For new "Small Boat" Launching Ramps



Released under RTI

Released under RTI - DTMR



Minister for Transport and Main Roads  
Minister for Digital Services

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**Website** [www.tmr.qld.gov.au](http://www.tmr.qld.gov.au)

Our ref: MC141302

30 January 2024

Mr Jarrod Bleijie MP  
Member for Kawana  
[kawana@parliament.qld.gov.au](mailto:kawana@parliament.qld.gov.au)

Dear Mr Bleijie

I refer to your letter to the former Minister for Transport and Main Roads and Minister for Digital Services, on behalf of Not Relevant about the Sunshine Motorway, Mooloolah River Interchange (MRI) Upgrade project.

I am advised the Department of Transport and Main Roads (TMR) is planning for a multi-modal transport corridor on the Sunshine Coast, including Parrearra. This includes an existing corridor, known as the Caboolture to Maroochydore Corridor Study, that has been preserved since 2001.

The multi-modal transport corridor includes the Not Relevant and MRI Upgrade projects, and will provide a more accessible, sustainable and efficient transport network to support the region's increasing development and population growth. Timeframes for construction of these projects are subject to detailed design and planning, project co-dependencies and funding commitments.

NR

TMR is required to progress Protected Planning (Category C) across impacted properties to ensure that anyone wishing to develop, build or purchase will be notified of TMR's future requirements, as well as protecting the corridor for future upgrades.

Property resumptions are a sensitive but necessary part of building new infrastructure. TMR approaches such matters with compassion and in accordance with a framework established by the *Acquisition of Land Act 1967* (the Act). It is acknowledged this process may be difficult for nearby residents.

TMR is not actively resuming the Fitzroy Court properties identified as Protected Planning in accordance with TMR's *Approved Planning Policy*. Early acquisition is available to eligible property owners whose properties have been identified as Protected Planning. However, there is no immediate impact to the properties and TMR has not issued owners with a Notice of Intention to Resume. The resumption process will not commence until funding is committed for future stages of the relevant projects.

As you may be aware, under the Act, directly impacted property owners may lodge a claim for compensation within three years from the day the Taking of Land Notice is published in the *Queensland Government Gazette*. As outlined in the Act, this does not extend to nearby properties that are not directly impacted. Not Relevant property at Not Relevant

I trust this information helps with your response to Not Relevant

Yours sincerely



**BART MELLISH MP**  
**Minister for Transport and Main Roads**  
**Minister for Digital Services**

Released under RTI - DTMI





Minister for Transport and Main Roads  
Minister for Digital Services

1 William Street Brisbane 4000  
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**Telephone +61 7 3719 7300**  
**Email** transportandmainroads@ministerial.qld.gov.au  
**Website** www.tmr.qld.gov.au

Our ref: MC141727

30 January 2024

Mr Jarrod Bleijie MP  
Member for Kawana  
kawana@parliament.qld.gov.au

Dear Mr Bleijie

I refer to your letter of 6 November 2023 to the former Minister for Transport and Main Roads and Minister for Digital Services, about the Sunshine Motorway, Mooloolah River Interchange (MRI) Upgrade project.

As you may be aware, the existing transport corridor, known as the Caboolture to Maroochydore Corridor Study, has been preserved since 2001. This preserved corridor exists for a multi-modal transport solution including the Not Relevant and MRI Upgrade projects.

During recent planning for the multi-modal transport corridor at Parrearra, the Department of Transport and Main Roads (TMR) identified that based on current standards and future needs, additional space would be required. This is to accommodate upgraded rail standards, a new active transport facility and provision for the future Kawana Motorway.

I am advised the alignments for the DSC Rail Line and Kawana Motorway shown in the area of the multi-modal transport corridor are indicative only, and the area you have marked on the MRI Upgrade preliminary design layout is required to accommodate these projects. TMR is undertaking business cases for the DSC Rail Line and Kawana Motorway and expects to confirm the corridor requirements for these projects in 2024.

I am further advised this matter was discussed during a meeting held on 14 September 2023 with you, representatives from the office of the former Minister and TMR.

TMR is required to progress Protected Planning (Category C) across impacted properties to ensure that anyone wishing to develop, build or purchase will be notified of TMR's future requirements, as well as protecting the corridor for future upgrades.

There is no immediate impact to the 12 properties identified at Fitzroy Court, Parrearra. TMR is not actively resuming properties required for future stages. However, early acquisition is available to eligible property owners whose properties have been identified as Protected Planning in accordance with TMR's *Approved Planning Policy*.

TMR will continue to work closely with the impacted property owners to provide information and support as further information is available.

I trust this information is of assistance.

Yours sincerely



**BART MELLISH MP**  
**Minister for Transport and Main Roads**  
**Minister for Digital Services**

Released under RTI - DTMR



Minister for Transport and Main Roads  
Minister for Digital Services

Our ref: MC142924

Your ref: FS:sd/corr/transport/24

5 February 2024

Ms Fiona Simpson MP  
Member for Maroochydore  
maroochydore@parliament.qld.gov.au

Dear Ms Simpson

Thank you for your letter of 16 January 2024 about the Sunshine Motorway, Mooloolah River Interchange (MRI) Upgrade project.

The Queensland Government front loaded its 50 per cent share of the initial \$320 million allocated following the 2022 Federal Budget to progress design work. A preliminary design layout for the entire MRI Upgrade project was released to the community in July 2023.

As you have noted, on 22 December 2023 I announced a revised indicative total cost of \$743.6 million for this project as part of the Queensland Government's renewed plan for transparency with Queenslanders.

It is acknowledged that since preparation of the project's business case and cost estimate in 2020, significant labour and materials cost escalations and unprecedented property market conditions in the Sunshine Coast region have impacted the project budget.

I trust this information is of assistance.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Bart Mellish', written over a horizontal line.

**BART MELLISH MP**  
Minister for Transport and Main Roads  
Minister for Digital Services

1 William Street Brisbane 4000  
GPO Box 2644 Brisbane  
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**Telephone +61 7 3719 7300**  
**Email** transportandmainroads@ministerial.qld.gov.au  
**Website** www.tmr.qld.gov.au



# Fiona SIMPSON MP

Member for **Maroochydore**  
Shadow Minister for Finance and Better Regulation  
Shadow Minister for Integrity in Government



Ref: FS:sld/corr/transport/2024

7 February 2024

Hon Bart Mellish  
Minister for Transport and Main Roads  
Minister for Digital Services

Email: [transportandmainroads@ministerial.qld.gov.au](mailto:transportandmainroads@ministerial.qld.gov.au)

Dear Minister

I acknowledge your letter of 5 February 2024 responding to my letter of 16 January 2024, concerning the Mooloolah River Interchange.

Unfortunately, the Minister failed to answer the questions I asked and only repeated the very scant information that has been released publicly which lacks transparency.

I respectfully ask again that you answer the following questions for the Mooloolah River Interchange:

- 1) what you plan to do to fix this congestion point and when;
- 2) why the cost for Stage 1 of the MRI has blown out by more than double;
- 3) has there been a scope change to the MRI which has exacerbated the cost blowout; and
- 4) has DTMR proposed a change to the MRI that have impacted outside of the corridors' existing Federal and/or State Environmental approvals?

This is an important infrastructure project for one of the fastest growing regions in the state. As well as being a congestion point, it is dangerous.

Yours sincerely

Not Relevant

**Fiona Simpson MP**  
Member for Maroochydore  
Shadow Minister for Finance and Better Regulation  
Shadow Minister for Integrity in Government

Our ref: MC143227

Your ref: FS:sld/corr/transport/2024

Ms Fiona Simpson MP  
Member for Maroochydore  
maroochydore@parliament.qld.gov.au

Contact officer	Trevor Land
Telephone	5475 2817
Approved by	Scott Whitaker Regional Director (North Coast)
Date of approval	8 February 2024
Endorsed by	Andrew Wheeler A/General Manager (Program Delivery and Operations)
Date of endorsement	9 February 2024
Endorsed by	Ann-Maree Knox A/Deputy Director-General (Infrastructure Management and Delivery)
Date of endorsement	Progressed under GM approval
Endorsed by	Sally Stannard Director-General
Date of endorsement	13 February 2024

Dear Ms Simpson

Thank you for your letter of 7 February 2024 about the Sunshine Motorway, Mooloolah River Interchange (MRI) Upgrade project.

The MRI Upgrade project remains a priority for the Queensland Government. Stage 1 will address safety and congestion issues that are forecast to increase due to regional population growth and development. Funding contributions for Stage 1 are subject to further consideration and negotiation. The state's \$160 million commitment for Stage 1 remains, and design work is progressing.

As advised in my letter of 5 February 2024 (our reference MC142924), significant labour and material cost escalations and unprecedented property market conditions in the Sunshine Coast region have impacted the project budget since preparation of the project's business case and cost estimate in 2020.

I am advised the investigation and clarification of technical requirements, and the identification of further improvements needed for Stage 1, have also driven cost increases.

The Department of Transport and Main Roads (TMR) has been liaising with relevant Australian and Queensland Government departments and regulators to discuss environmental components, share information and ensure legislative requirements are met and where possible exceeded. TMR will continue to listen and work with these key stakeholders to ensure best practice is achieved.

The MRI Upgrade project provides significant benefit to the community as part of an integrated solution on the Sunshine Coast. The Queensland Government is committed to delivering this project and we will continue to request that the Australian Government review its position.

I trust this information is of assistance.

Yours sincerely

**BART MELLISH MP**  
**Minister for Transport and Main Roads**  
**Minister for Digital Services**

## TMR Media

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**From:** Lesley Major <Lesley.Major@ministerial.qld.gov.au>  
**Sent:** Friday, 22 December 2023 3:47 PM  
**To:** Media; Madeline R Cooper Quinn; James X Murphy  
**Cc:** James Kleeman  
**Subject:** FW: Sunshine Coast transport

**Categories:** Pirjo

Good to go with highlighted edits. Would it be possible to hold off on sending the response until next Thursday (as per journalist request?)

**From:** Mailbox DocTrak Media - TMR <mail.doctrak.media.tmr@tmr.qld.gov.au>  
**Sent:** Friday, December 22, 2023 3:00 PM  
**To:** Lesley Major <Lesley.Major@ministerial.qld.gov.au>; Mailbox DocTrak Media - TMR <mail.doctrak.media.tmr@tmr.qld.gov.au>  
**Cc:** James Kleeman <James.Kleeman@ministerial.qld.gov.au>; Media <media@tmr.qld.gov.au>; Amanda J Smith <Amanda.J.Smith@tmr.qld.gov.au>; James X Murphy <James.X.Murphy@tmr.qld.gov.au>; Pirjo R Heinonen <pirjo.r.heinonen@tmr.qld.gov.au>; Nicholas G Adermann <nicholas.g.adermann@tmr.qld.gov.au>  
**Subject:** RE: Sunshine Coast transport

Hi Lesley and James,

Please see our response to Sunshine Coast News below. Please let me know if you have any questions.

Thanks

Maddi

**OUTLET:** Sunshine Coast News  
**JOURNALIST:** Not Relevant  
**DEADLINE:** COB 22 December 23

### Question:

Can I get some comments about Sunshine Coast transport please.

We have media releases from members of state and federal parliament, who have called for details/updates regarding Not Relevant and the Mooloolah River Interchange Upgrade.

Not Relevant

- What is the latest with the Mooloolah River Interchange Upgrade, after the federal government essentially withdrew its support for the project?
- Is the state government still committed to MRIU? Could plans change/have plans changed to deliver the project, in the absence of federal support?
- How much funding has been allocated to the project from levels of government? How much could the entire project cost?
- What is happening with the property owners who were set to give up their land for acquisition?
- Will MRIU actually happen? If so, when?

Not Relevant

- How will the new Premier and the new Minister for Transport treat Sunshine Coast transport projects?
- Will anything change under their leadership? If so, what and why?

Feel free to add any further comments/info/visuals.

**Response: (Please attribute to a Transport and Main Roads spokesperson)**

Not Relevant

Released under RTI-DTMR

The Australian Government's Independent Strategic Review of its Infrastructure Investment Program Review outcomes indicate that the project will no longer receive the previously committed \$160 million Australian Government funding for the Mooloolah River Interchange (Stage 1). While the Mooloolah River Interchange Upgrade Stage 1 remains a priority for the Queensland Government, project cost and funding contributions for Stage 1 are subject to further consideration and negotiation.

**Background:**

Further information about the DSC project is available on the [TMR website](#).

**ENDS**

Thanks,

Maddi



**Maddi Cooper Quinn**  
Manager (External Affairs) | Media  
Strategic Communications Branch  
Governance Branch | Corporate Division  
**Department of Transport and Main Roads**

---

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**From:** Lesley Major <[Lesley.Major@ministerial.qld.gov.au](mailto:Lesley.Major@ministerial.qld.gov.au)>  
**Sent:** Friday, 22 December 2023 9:17 AM  
**To:** Mailbox DocTrak Media - TMR <[mail.doctrak.media.tmr@tmr.qld.gov.au](mailto:mail.doctrak.media.tmr@tmr.qld.gov.au)>  
**Cc:** James Kleeman <[James.Kleeman@ministerial.qld.gov.au](mailto:James.Kleeman@ministerial.qld.gov.au)>; Media <[media@tmr.qld.gov.au](mailto:media@tmr.qld.gov.au)>; Amanda J Smith <[Amanda.J.Smith@tmr.qld.gov.au](mailto:Amanda.J.Smith@tmr.qld.gov.au)>; James X Murphy <[James.X.Murphy@tmr.qld.gov.au](mailto:James.X.Murphy@tmr.qld.gov.au)>; Pirjo R Heinonen <[pirjo.r.heinonen@tmr.qld.gov.au](mailto:pirjo.r.heinonen@tmr.qld.gov.au)>; Nicholas G Adermann <[nicholas.g.adermann@tmr.qld.gov.au](mailto:nicholas.g.adermann@tmr.qld.gov.au)>  
**Subject:** Re: Sunshine Coast transport

Thanks Maddi, good to know ahead of the event

Sent from my iPhone

On 22 Dec 2023, at 9:07 am, Mailbox DocTrak Media - TMR <[mail.doctrak.media.tmr@tmr.qld.gov.au](mailto:mail.doctrak.media.tmr@tmr.qld.gov.au)> wrote:

Good morning Lesley,

I just wanted to flag the below enquiry we have received from Sunshine Coast News this morning.

The enquiry includes questions around funding of Not Relevant  
Not Relevant and the Mooloolah River Interchange Upgrade.

There is also some questions for the Minister and Premier.

We're working on a response now, but in light of today's announcement and the ongoing review, I wanted to flag. Please let me know if you have any feedback on how you would like us to respond.

Thanks,

Maddi

---

**Maddi Cooper Quinn**  
Manager (External Affairs) | Media  
Strategic Communications Branch  
Governance Branch | Corporate Division  
**Department of Transport and Main Roads**

07 3066 7525  
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[www.tmr.qld.gov.au](http://www.tmr.qld.gov.au)

**From:** [Not Relevant] <[Redacted]@sunshinecoastnews.com.au>

**Sent:** Friday, 22 December 2023 8:37 AM

**To:** Media <[media@tmr.qld.gov.au](mailto:media@tmr.qld.gov.au)>

**Subject:** Sunshine Coast transport

G'day folks,

Can I get some comments about Sunshine Coast transport please.

We have media releases from members of state and federal parliament, who have called for details/updates regarding [Not Relevant]

[Not Relevant]

and the Mooloolah River Interchange Upgrade.

[Not Relevant]

- What is the latest with the Mooloolah River Interchange Upgrade, after the federal government essentially withdrew its support for the project?
- Is the state government still committed to MRIU? Could plans change/have plans changed to deliver the project, in the absence of federal support?
- How much funding has been allocated to the project from levels of government? How much could the entire project cost?
- What is happening with the property owners who were set to give up their land for acquisition?
- Will MRIU actually happen? If so, when?

[Not Relevant]

- How will the new Premier and the new Minister for Transport treat Sunshine Coast transport projects?
- Will anything change under their leadership? If so, what and why?

Feel free to add any further comments/info/visuals.

If someone could get back to me within the next few days that would be good but if TMR has essentially shut down for the weekend/public holidays, then by about Thursday would be good.

Cheers,

---

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## Nicholas G Adermann

**From:** Nicholas G Adermann  
**Sent:** Tuesday, 2 January 2024 1:32 PM  
**To:** James Kleeman; TMR Media  
**Cc:** James X Murphy; Pirjo R Heinonen  
**Subject:** RE: Afternoon Media Update - Tuesday 2 January  
**Attachments:** ABC inquiry re Mooloolah River Interchange resumptions

Hi James,

Attached is the original enquiry.

Let me know any issues.

**Nicholas Adermann**  
Principal Advisor (External Affairs) | Media  
Strategic Communications Branch  
Governance Branch | Corporate Division  
**Department of Transport and Main Roads**

07 3066 7313 | Not Relevant  
Level 8 | 61 Mary Street | Brisbane Qld 4000  
GPO Box 1549 | Brisbane Qld 4001  
[Nicholas.g.adermann@tmr.qld.gov.au](mailto:Nicholas.g.adermann@tmr.qld.gov.au)  
[www.tmr.qld.gov.au](http://www.tmr.qld.gov.au)

**From:** James Kleeman <James.Kleeman@ministerial.qld.gov.au>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, 2 January 2024 1:30 PM  
**To:** Mailbox DocTrak Media - TMR <mail.doctrak.media.tmr@tmr.qld.gov.au>  
**Cc:** Nicholas G Adermann <nicholas.g.adermann@tmr.qld.gov.au>; James X Murphy <James.X.Murphy@tmr.qld.gov.au>; Pirjo R Heinonen <pirjo.r.heinonen@tmr.qld.gov.au>  
**Subject:** RE: Afternoon Media Update - Tuesday 2 January

Thanks team,

Could you please send through ABC's MRI enquiry?

Thanks,  
James

**From:** Mailbox DocTrak Media - TMR <[mail.doctrak.media.tmr@tmr.qld.gov.au](mailto:mail.doctrak.media.tmr@tmr.qld.gov.au)>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, January 2, 2024 1:22 PM  
**To:** Minister.Media.Update <[Minister.Media.Update@tmr.qld.gov.au](mailto:Minister.Media.Update@tmr.qld.gov.au)>  
**Subject:** Afternoon Media Update - Tuesday 2 January

Hi,

Please find below this afternoon's media update.

### Media Enquiries

Media Deadline	Media outlet	Short description	Status of Enquiry
2/01/2024 17:00	ABC	Mooloolah River Interchange project homes resumption	Being drafted
Not Relevant			

**Angus Burton**

Executive Coordinator | Strategic Communications Unit

Strategic Communications Branch | Corporate Division | Department of Transport and Main Roads

---

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P: (07) 3066 5120

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W: [www.tmr.qld.gov.au](http://www.tmr.qld.gov.au)

---

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## TMR Media

---

**From:** James Kleeman <James.Kleeman@ministerial.qld.gov.au>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, 3 January 2024 9:10 AM  
**To:** Nicholas G Adermann  
**Cc:** Lesley Major; Amanda J Smith; James X Murphy; Media  
**Subject:** RE: For consideration by COB today (2 Jan): Mooloolah River Interchange - ABC Sunshine Coast

**Categories:** Nick

Thanks Nick,

Could you please provide the below to the journalist on background as this is the angle of their story, advising that TMR will continue to regularly consult with affected property owners for stage 1 and future stages of the project as costs and funding contributions are considered. Response below otherwise G2G.

Thanks also for negotiating deadline.

---

**From:** Nicholas G Adermann <nicholas.g.adermann@tmr.qld.gov.au>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, January 2, 2024 7:31 PM  
**To:** James Kleeman <James.Kleeman@ministerial.qld.gov.au>  
**Cc:** Lesley Major <Lesley.Major@ministerial.qld.gov.au>; Amanda J Smith <Amanda.J.Smith@tmr.qld.gov.au>; James X Murphy <James.X.Murphy@tmr.qld.gov.au>; Media <media@tmr.qld.gov.au>  
**Subject:** RE: For consideration by COB today (2 Jan): Mooloolah River Interchange - ABC Sunshine Coast

Evening James,

Following up - I'm advised property acquisitions for MR Stage 1 have been completed. Demolition of all Stage 1 properties was finalised in the early works package late 2023.

TMR has already acquired the vast majority of properties for the remainder of the project (future stages) except for 4 properties (privately owned) at Mountain Creek. We have discussed this requirement with each of the property owners and are not progressing any of these resumptions at the moment due to lack of certainty in funding and the desire of the property owners.

We'd prefer if this was not included in the statement, however we are comfortable with it being background if you wanted to address the question directly.

Also worth noting the journalist has revised her deadline to 10am tomorrow morning.

**Nicholas Adermann**  
Principal Advisor (External Affairs) | Media  
Strategic Communications Branch  
Governance Branch | Corporate Division  
**Department of Transport and Main Roads**

---

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[www.tmr.qld.gov.au](http://www.tmr.qld.gov.au)

---

**From:** James Kleeman <[James.Kleeman@ministerial.qld.gov.au](mailto:James.Kleeman@ministerial.qld.gov.au)>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, 2 January 2024 4:20 PM  
**To:** Nicholas G Adermann <[nicholas.g.adermann@tmr.qld.gov.au](mailto:nicholas.g.adermann@tmr.qld.gov.au)>  
**Cc:** Lesley Major <[Lesley.Major@ministerial.qld.gov.au](mailto:Lesley.Major@ministerial.qld.gov.au)>; Amanda J Smith <[Amanda.J.Smith@tmr.qld.gov.au](mailto:Amanda.J.Smith@tmr.qld.gov.au)>; James

X Murphy <[James.X.Murphy@tmr.qld.gov.au](mailto:James.X.Murphy@tmr.qld.gov.au)>; Media <[media@tmr.qld.gov.au](mailto:media@tmr.qld.gov.au)>

**Subject:** RE: For consideration by COB today (2 Jan): Mooloolah River Interchange - ABC Sunshine Coast

Thanks Nick,

Journo's enquiry references resumptions for stage two of the project still going ahead.

Can we please confirm if this is/is not the case?

---

**From:** Nicholas G Adermann <[nicholas.g.adermann@tmr.qld.gov.au](mailto:nicholas.g.adermann@tmr.qld.gov.au)>

**Sent:** Tuesday, January 2, 2024 3:52 PM

**To:** James Kleeman <[James.Kleeman@ministerial.qld.gov.au](mailto:James.Kleeman@ministerial.qld.gov.au)>

**Cc:** Lesley Major <[Lesley.Major@ministerial.qld.gov.au](mailto:Lesley.Major@ministerial.qld.gov.au)>; Amanda J Smith <[Amanda.J.Smith@tmr.qld.gov.au](mailto:Amanda.J.Smith@tmr.qld.gov.au)>; James X Murphy <[James.X.Murphy@tmr.qld.gov.au](mailto:James.X.Murphy@tmr.qld.gov.au)>; Media <[media@tmr.qld.gov.au](mailto:media@tmr.qld.gov.au)>; Nicholas G Adermann <[nicholas.g.adermann@tmr.qld.gov.au](mailto:nicholas.g.adermann@tmr.qld.gov.au)>

**Subject:** For consideration by COB today (2 Jan): Mooloolah River Interchange - ABC Sunshine Coast

Good afternoon James,

Please see below a media enquiry and response for your consideration.

Let me know if there's any issues.

Nick.

---

**OUTLET:** ABC Sunshine Coast

**JOURNALIST:** Not Relevant

**DEADLINE:** COB today (2 Jan)

**Media enquiry:**

Hi team,

I've been reliably informed by an affected property owner that home resumptions for stage two of the Mooloolah River Interchange project are still going ahead.

This is despite the Federal government axing \$160 mil towards stages 1 and 2 of the project as part of its review into infrastructure spending.

Can I please have a response to the following, by close of business tomorrow (2<sup>nd</sup> Jan)?

1. Why are resumptions still going ahead for the project... will the state now be funding it entirely instead of a 50/50 split with the Fed govt?
2. If it is going ahead still, when will the homes be demolished and construction begin?
3. Residents living in the area who are not having homes resumed but will be impacted by the road if built (by having an interchange run right by their homes) say they have been kept in the dark about what's going on... has the department done enough to consult with ALL affected residents?

**RESPONSE: (Please attribute to a Transport and Main Roads spokesperson)**

The Mooloolah River Interchange Upgrade Stage 1 remains a priority for the Queensland Government.

The Australian Government's Independent Strategic Review of its Infrastructure Investment Program Review outcomes indicate that the project will no longer receive the previously committed \$160 million Australian Government funding for the Mooloolah River Interchange (Stage 1). Project cost and funding contributions for Stage 1 are subject to further consideration and negotiation.

The Mooloolah River Interchange Upgrade will provide new north-south connectivity between Maroochydore, Birtinya, Caloundra, and southern growth areas.

It's the key to unlocking significant road and rail projects on the Sunshine Coast and is the trigger for major infrastructure transformation in the region. This includes the Direct Sunshine Coast Rail Line, Kawana Motorway (MRI to Kawana Way Link Road), the Buderim-Mooloolaba Interchange to Maroochy Boulevard and Sunshine Coast Public Transport Strategy projects.

The Mooloolah River Interchange Upgrade will address safety and congestion issues that are forecast to increase due to regional population growth and development.

Design work is progressing and a preliminary design layout for the entire Mooloolah River Interchange Upgrade was released to the community for comment in July 2023 as part of the integrated community engagement approach. A series of combined public information sessions were held. Feedback provided by the community is being considered during the detailed design phase and will help shape the final design layout for Stage 1.

Construction timeframes for Stage 1 will be determined during the design phase and are dependent on funding.

Since planning began in 2007, there have been properties acquired for the project under TMR's Early Acquisition Policy. TMR has acquired all properties required for Stage 1. Properties acquired for future stages will be held by TMR until such time as funding commitments are determined.

Preparatory early works for Stage 1 started in mid-May 2023 to begin to make the site construction ready. Property demolitions for Stage 1 commenced in June 2023 and are now complete.

## ENDS

**Nicholas Adermann**  
Principal Advisor (External Affairs) | Media  
Strategic Communications Branch  
Governance Branch | Corporate Division  
**Department of Transport and Main Roads**

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Released under RTI - DTMR

## Nicholas G Adermann

---

**From:** James X Murphy  
**Sent:** Friday, 5 January 2024 6:28 PM  
**To:** James Kleeman  
**Cc:** Amanda J Smith; Media; Nicholas G Adermann; Pirjo R Heinonen; Demi Z Barnett  
**Subject:** ADDITIONAL INFO -- Homes resumed for MRI - Mins Office questions

James,

Some additional colour below on your two further questions around MRI for you background. DG approved.

Cheers  
James

###

### Question 1:

What number of residential and commercial properties each have been resumed? (Of the total of 35 resumptions to date).

### Answer:

30 residential properties and one commercial property spanning five lots were resumed for Stage 1.

### Question 2:

Why is the number of properties that have been acquired for this project higher now than the figures provided to Channel 9 in November, which was 135?

To date, TMR has acquired 155 properties for the Sunshine Motorway, Mooloolah River Interchange Upgrade.

### Answer:

There are multiple ways TMR can purchase property – the main two ways are through (a) early acquisition or (b) formal resumption process. See link [Land and property resumptions \(Department of Transport and Main Roads\) \(tmr.qld.gov.au\)](https://tmr.qld.gov.au)

Once a land requirement is identified TMR consults with property owners impacted by future works. This can either occur during early planning/business case stage when a corridor is proposed and/or during design in preparation for construction.

TMR is required to progress protected planning across impacted properties to ensure that anyone wishing to develop, build or purchase will be notified of TMR's future requirements, as well as protecting the corridor for future upgrades.

With protected planning in place, affected owners can apply for early acquisition of their properties. Purchase would be subject to meeting the requirements of TMR's Early Acquisition Policy.

TMR will not commence a formal resumption process until funding is committed for a project that is directly impacting property. Formal resumption is a statutory process with the steps and timeframes being governed by the Acquisition of Land Act (1967). The resumption process normally takes approximately four to six months from the time a Notice of Intention to Resume is issued to the formal gazettal of the land. The gazettal of the land means that the land has been formally acquired by TMR under the Acquisition of Land Act (1967) and the property owners interest in the land is extinguished and converted into a right to claim compensation.

Stage 1 resumptions are completed.

As future stages of the MRI remain unfunded, TMR is not actively resuming properties required for future stages. However, early acquisition is available to eligible property owners and TMR continues to receive applications. These applications are in varying stages of negotiation and settlement, which is why the total number of residential property acquisitions is subject to change.

TMR understands the Channel 9 enquiry in late November 2023 requested information on housing numbers only (residential) and as such the figures provided at that time for that enquiry did not include the non-residential properties that TMR has purchased, nor ongoing purchases under early acquisition.

The property numbers provided yesterday (155) are the current and most accurate numbers and include both residential and commercial property acquisitions.

**ENDS**

Released under RTI - DTMR

## TMR Media

---

**From:** Nicholas G Adermann  
**Sent:** Friday, 5 January 2024 3:37 PM  
**To:** James Kleeman  
**Cc:** Amanda J Smith; James X Murphy; Media; Pirjo R Heinonen  
**Subject:** For consideration: Mooloolah River Interchange Upgrade follow up questions - ABC Sunshine Coast

Good afternoon James,

Please see below the MRI follow up questions from the ABC and responses for your consideration.

Apologies for the delay on this one, but let me know if there's any issues.

Nick.

---

### **What number of residential and commercial properties each have been resumed? (Of the total of 35 resumptions to date).**

30 residential properties and one commercial property spanning five lots were resumed for Stage 1.

### **Why is the number of properties that have been acquired for this project higher now than the figures provided to Channel 9 in November, which was 135?**

**To date, TMR has acquired 155 properties for the Sunshine Motorway, Mooloolah River Interchange Upgrade.**

There are multiple ways TMR can purchase property – the main two ways are through (a) early acquisition or (b) formal resumption process. See link [Land and property resumptions \(Department of Transport and Main Roads\) \(tmr.qld.gov.au\)](https://tmr.qld.gov.au)

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Stage 1 resumptions are completed.

As future stages of the MRI remain unfunded, TMR is not actively resuming properties required for future stages. However, early acquisition is available to eligible property owners and TMR continues to receive applications. These applications are in varying stages of negotiation and settlement, which is why the total number of residential property acquisitions is subject to change.

TMR understands the Channel 9 enquiry in late November 2023 requested information on housing numbers only (residential) and as such the figures provided at that time for that enquiry did not include the non-residential properties that TMR has purchased, nor ongoing purchases under early acquisition.

The property numbers provided yesterday (155) are the current and most accurate numbers and include both residential and commercial property acquisitions.

**ENDS**

**Nicholas Adermann**

Principal Advisor (External Affairs) | Media  
Strategic Communications Branch  
Governance Branch | Corporate Division  
**Department of Transport and Main Roads**

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[www.tmr.qld.gov.au](http://www.tmr.qld.gov.au)

Released under RTI - DTMR

## Nicholas G Adermann

---

**From:** Nicholas G Adermann  
**Sent:** Friday, 5 January 2024 11:45 AM  
**To:** James Kleeman  
**Cc:** Lesley Major; Amanda J Smith; James X Murphy; Media; Pirjo R Heinonen  
**Subject:** For consideration by 12pm today: Number of homes resumed stage 1 and 2 MRI Upgrade - ABC follow up

Good morning James,

Please see below the follow up MRI media enquiry and response for your consideration.

Let me know if there's any issues.

Nick.

---

**MEDIA OUTLET:** ABC  
**JOURNALIST:** Not Relevant  
**DEADLINE:** 12noon 5 January 23

### Media enquiry:

Thank you for the response.  
Can I please confirm just a couple of figures..  
How many homes have been resumed for stage 1?  
And how many for stage 2?

### RESPONSE:

To date, TMR has acquired 155 properties for the Sunshine Motorway, Mooloolah River Interchange Upgrade.

This includes 91 properties (including 84 residential properties) for Stage 1, of which 35 were resumed.

A total of 64 residential properties have been acquired for future stages of the project through TMR's early acquisition process.

TMR is not actively resuming properties required for future stages. However, early acquisition is available to eligible property owners whose properties have been identified as Protected Planning (Category C) in accordance with TMR's Approved Planning Policy.

### ENDS

**Nicholas Adermann**  
Principal Advisor (External Affairs) | Media  
Strategic Communications Branch  
Governance Branch | Corporate Division  
**Department of Transport and Main Roads**

---

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[www.tmr.qld.gov.au](http://www.tmr.qld.gov.au)

## TMR Media

---

**From:** James Kleeman <James.Kleeman@ministerial.qld.gov.au>  
**Sent:** Monday, 8 January 2024 2:59 PM  
**To:** Madeline R Cooper Quinn; Lesley Major  
**Cc:** James X Murphy; Nicole Z Davis; Media; Pirjo R Heinonen  
**Subject:** RE: For consideration by 2pm - Ch7 MRI homes resumed MRI Upgrade

**Categories:** Pirjo

Just spoke to the journo again, they are expecting something in the next 30

---

**From:** Madeline R Cooper Quinn <Madeline.R.Cooper-Quinn@tmr.qld.gov.au>  
**Sent:** Monday, January 8, 2024 2:51 PM  
**To:** James Kleeman <James.Kleeman@ministerial.qld.gov.au>; Lesley Major <Lesley.Major@ministerial.qld.gov.au>  
**Cc:** James X Murphy <James.X.Murphy@tmr.qld.gov.au>; Nicole Z Davis <Nicole.Z.Davis@tmr.qld.gov.au>; Media <media@tmr.qld.gov.au>; Pirjo R Heinonen <pirjo.r.heinonen@tmr.qld.gov.au>  
**Subject:** RE: For consideration by 2pm - Ch7 MRI homes resumed MRI Upgrade

Hi James – the team is drafting the updates now, but I don't think we will make the 3pm deadline. Any chance we could extend it further – we may need a further 30 minutes?

Thanks,

Maddi

**Maddi Cooper Quinn**

Manager (External Affairs) | Media  
Strategic Communications Branch  
Governance Branch | Corporate Division  
**Department of Transport and Main Roads**

---

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[www.tmr.qld.gov.au](http://www.tmr.qld.gov.au)

---

**From:** James Kleeman <[James.Kleeman@ministerial.qld.gov.au](mailto:James.Kleeman@ministerial.qld.gov.au)>  
**Sent:** Monday, 8 January 2024 2:39 PM  
**To:** Madeline R Cooper Quinn <[Madeline.R.Cooper-Quinn@tmr.qld.gov.au](mailto:Madeline.R.Cooper-Quinn@tmr.qld.gov.au)>; Lesley Major <[Lesley.Major@ministerial.qld.gov.au](mailto:Lesley.Major@ministerial.qld.gov.au)>  
**Cc:** James X Murphy <[James.X.Murphy@tmr.qld.gov.au](mailto:James.X.Murphy@tmr.qld.gov.au)>; Nicole Z Davis <[Nicole.Z.Davis@tmr.qld.gov.au](mailto:Nicole.Z.Davis@tmr.qld.gov.au)>; Media <[media@tmr.qld.gov.au](mailto:media@tmr.qld.gov.au)>; Pirjo R Heinonen <[pirjo.r.heinonen@tmr.qld.gov.au](mailto:pirjo.r.heinonen@tmr.qld.gov.au)>  
**Subject:** RE: For consideration by 2pm - Ch7 MRI homes resumed MRI Upgrade

Thanks Maddi, just chasing those updates urgently please

---

**From:** Madeline R Cooper Quinn <[Madeline.R.Cooper-Quinn@tmr.qld.gov.au](mailto:Madeline.R.Cooper-Quinn@tmr.qld.gov.au)>  
**Sent:** Monday, January 8, 2024 12:52 PM

**To:** James Kleeman <[James.Kleeman@ministerial.qld.gov.au](mailto:James.Kleeman@ministerial.qld.gov.au)>; Lesley Major <[Lesley.Major@ministerial.qld.gov.au](mailto:Lesley.Major@ministerial.qld.gov.au)>  
**Cc:** James X Murphy <[James.X.Murphy@tmr.qld.gov.au](mailto:James.X.Murphy@tmr.qld.gov.au)>; Nicole Z Davis <[Nicole.Z.Davis@tmr.qld.gov.au](mailto:Nicole.Z.Davis@tmr.qld.gov.au)>; Media <[media@tmr.qld.gov.au](mailto:media@tmr.qld.gov.au)>; Pirjo R Heinonen <[pirjo.r.heinonen@tmr.qld.gov.au](mailto:pirjo.r.heinonen@tmr.qld.gov.au)>  
**Subject:** For consideration by 2pm - Ch7 MRI homes resumed MRI Upgrade

Hi James,

As discussed, please find below our response to Channel 7 for your consideration.

I think it's important to ensure the correct message is provided to the community around the difference between 'resumptions' and 'acquisitions'. ABC clearly mixed these up when stating that 130 homes had been 'resumed', including two in the last month.

While TMR has acquired more homes since November, these are all part of the voluntary process (and the 155 number includes both residential and commercial – as advised in the response on Friday to the further two questions around the number).

Thanks

Maddi

**OUTLET:** Channel 7

**JOURNALIST:** Not Relevant

**DEADLINE:** 2pm Monday 8 January

+++

#### **Media enquiry:**

Good morning,

Jade here from 7. Could I please request a response to reports regarding the Mooloolah River Interchange on the Sunshine Coast. Reports say two more homes have been acquired in the last month for the project, despite its federal funding being pulled, and a \$424 million cost blowout.

Here are the questions I'm hoping to have covered:

- Can TMR confirm two homes were acquired in Kawana Island in the last month?
- Are there plans to acquire more homes?
- What compensation has been given to property owners affected?
- Does the State Government plan to go ahead with the project despite the cost blowout and federal funding being pulled?

My deadline is 2pm today.

#### **Response: (Please attribute to a Transport and Main Roads spokesperson)**

There are different ways TMR purchases property for infrastructure needs, depending on the project phase and funding availability. It is important to note resumption and acquisition are two different processes. Further information is available here: [www.tmr.qld.gov.au/community-and-environment/property-information/land-and-property-resumptions](http://www.tmr.qld.gov.au/community-and-environment/property-information/land-and-property-resumptions)

Future stages of the MRI Upgrade are currently unfunded and TMR is not actively resuming properties. However, early acquisition is available to eligible property owners whose properties have been identified as Protected Planning (Category C) in accordance with TMR's *Approved Planning Policy*.

We can confirm two Parrearra properties were purchased in December 2023 for future stages of the Sunshine Motorway, Mooloolah River Interchange Upgrade, after the property owners applied for early acquisition.



To date, we have spent more than \$80 million on property acquisitions.

Design work is progressing and we remain committed to delivering the project. Project cost and funding contributions for Stage 1 are subject to further consideration and negotiation.

**ENDS**

---

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**Nicholas G Adermann**

---

**From:** Nicholas G Adermann  
**Sent:** Friday, 2 February 2024 4:18 PM  
**To:** Lesley Major  
**Cc:** James Kleeman; Media; Madeline R Cooper Quinn; James X Murphy  
**Subject:** RE: Interchange upgrade | Not Relevant  
Not Relevant

Good afternoon Lesley,

Please see below for your use.

Let me know if there's further action required from us.

Nick.

---

**Response: (Please attribute to a Transport and Main Roads spokesperson if necessary)**

While the Australian Government's Infrastructure Investment Program Review outcomes indicate the Sunshine Motorway, Mooloolah River Interchange (MRI) Upgrade will no longer receive Australian Government funding, the project remains a priority for the Queensland Government, and the state's \$160 million commitment for Stage 1 remains. Future stages are currently unfunded.

Stage 1 of the MRI Upgrade will address safety and congestion issues that are forecast to increase due to regional population growth and development. It is also key to unlocking significant capacity for public transport on the Sunshine Coast.

The Department of Transport and Main Roads (TMR) is not actively resuming residential properties required for future stages of the MRI Upgrade. However, early acquisition is available to eligible property owners whose properties have been identified as Protected Planning (Category C) in accordance with TMR's *Approved Planning Policy*.

TMR will not commence a formal resumption process until funding is committed for a project that is directly impacting property. Formal resumption is a statutory process with the steps and timeframes being governed by the *Acquisition of Land Act 1967*.

**ENDS**

**Nicholas Adermann**  
Principal Advisor (External Affairs) | Media  
Strategic Communications Branch  
Governance Branch | Corporate Division  
**Department of Transport and Main Roads**

P: 07 3066 7313 | M: Not Relevant  
Level 8 | 61 Mary Street | Brisbane Qld 4000  
GPO Box 1549 | Brisbane Qld 4001  
[Nicholas.g.adermann@tmr.qld.gov.au](mailto:Nicholas.g.adermann@tmr.qld.gov.au)  
[www.tmr.qld.gov.au](http://www.tmr.qld.gov.au)

---

**From:** Lesley Major <Lesley.Major@ministerial.qld.gov.au>  
**Sent:** Friday, 2 February 2024 12:25 PM  
**To:** Media <media@tmr.qld.gov.au>; Madeline R Cooper Quinn <Madeline.R.Cooper-Quinn@tmr.qld.gov.au>; James X Murphy <James.X.Murphy@tmr.qld.gov.au>  
**Cc:** James Kleeman <James.Kleeman@ministerial.qld.gov.au>  
**Subject:** FW: Interchange upgrade | Not Relevant

Team

ABC Sunshine Coast has requested an interview with the Min off the back of the below article. We will decline the interview, but I'd like to send the journal NR the most recent information.

Could you please check the most recent response on MRI and update if necessary.

Also – **and I will need this urgently** – could you please check to make sure that properties for MRI are voluntary acquisitions only at this stage (ie no resumptions).

Thanks

---

**From:** Sunshine Coast News <[info@sunshinecoastnews.com.au](mailto:info@sunshinecoastnews.com.au)>

**Sent:** Friday, February 2, 2024 11:01 AM

**To:** @Minister Bailey Media <[MinisterBaileyMedia@min.internal](mailto:MinisterBaileyMedia@min.internal)>

**Subject:** Interchange upgrade Not Relevant

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**SUNSHINE COAST NEWS**

**DAILY NEWS FEED**

**TODAY'S MUST READS**

**Interchange still a 'priority' despite lack of funding**

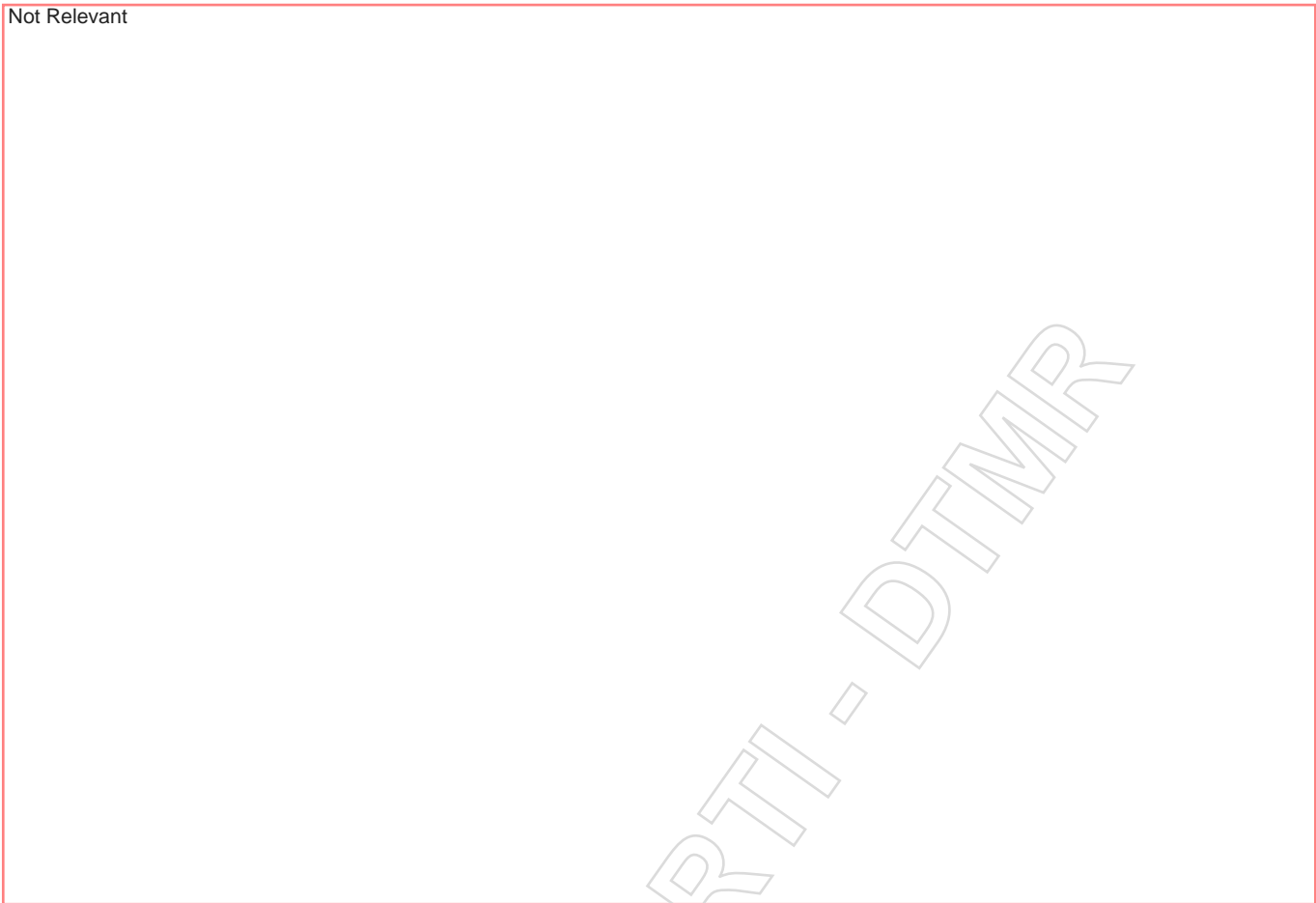


The state government says a proposed overhaul of one of the Coast's busiest interchanges is still high on its agenda but it can't say how, when or even if it will be completed.

[Full Story](#)

Not Relevant

Released under RTI - DTMR



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Released under RTI - DTMR

## TMR Media

---

**From:** Lesley Major <Lesley.Major@ministerial.qld.gov.au>  
**Sent:** Thursday, 8 February 2024 2:39 PM  
**To:** Nicholas G Adermann; James Kleeman; MinisterMellishMedia  
**Cc:** Nicole Z Davis; James X Murphy; Madeline R Cooper Quinn; Media; Matthew R Tewhatu  
**Subject:** RE: Media enquiry for consideration by 3pm today: Mooloolah River Interchange Upgrade - Sunshine Coast News

Hi team – version below gtg

### **Response: (Please attribute to a Transport and Main Roads spokesperson)**

On 22 December 2023, a revised indicative total cost of \$743.6 million for Stage 1 of the Sunshine Motorway, Mooloolah River Interchange (MRI) Upgrade was announced as part of the Queensland Government's renewed plan for transparency with Queenslanders.

Since preparation of the project's business case and cost estimate in 2020, significant labour and materials cost escalations and unprecedented property market conditions in the Sunshine Coast region have impacted the project budget.

The Australian Government has advised that following their Infrastructure Investment Program Review the MRI Upgrade will no longer receive Australian Government funding.

~~Funding contributions for Stage 1 are subject to further consideration.~~

~~While the Australian Government's Infrastructure Investment Program Review outcomes indicate the MRI Upgrade will no longer receive Australian Government funding, the project remains a priority for the Queensland Government.~~

~~Funding contributions for Stage 1 are subject to further consideration and negotiation. The state's \$160 million commitment for Stage 1 remains and design work is progressing.~~

~~Stage 1 will address safety and congestion issues that are forecast to increase due to regional population growth and development. It is also the key to unlocking significant public transport and rail projects on the Sunshine Coast and is the trigger for major infrastructure transformation in the region.~~

The Department of Transport and Main Roads (TMR) acquired 84 residential properties for Stage 1 and is not actively resuming residential properties required for future stages of the MRI Upgrade. However, early acquisition is available to eligible property owners whose properties have been identified as Protected Planning (Category C) in accordance with TMR's *Approved Planning Policy*.

---

**From:** Nicholas G Adermann <nicholas.g.adermann@tmr.qld.gov.au>  
**Sent:** Thursday, February 8, 2024 1:50 PM  
**To:** Lesley Major <Lesley.Major@ministerial.qld.gov.au>; James Kleeman <James.Kleeman@ministerial.qld.gov.au>; MinisterMellishMedia <MinisterMellishMedia@ministerial.qld.gov.au>  
**Cc:** Nicole Z Davis <Nicole.Z.Davis@tmr.qld.gov.au>; James X Murphy <James.X.Murphy@tmr.qld.gov.au>; Madeline R Cooper Quinn <Madeline.R.Cooper-Quinn@tmr.qld.gov.au>; Media <media@tmr.qld.gov.au>; Matthew R Tewhatu <matthew.r.tewhatu@tmr.qld.gov.au>  
**Subject:** Media enquiry for consideration by 3pm today: Mooloolah River Interchange Upgrade - Sunshine Coast News

Good afternoon Lesley and James,

Please see below a media enquiry we have received, and response for your consideration.

Can you please let me know if there's any issues.



Nick

---

**Outlet:** Sunshine Coast News

**Journalist:** Not Relevant

**Deadline:** 3pm 08/02

**Topic:** Mooloolah River Interchange Upgrade

Can I please get some comments from the Minister or someone at TMR about the Mooloolah River Interchange Upgrade.

-Can you confirm that costs for Stage 1 have been revised, from 320m to \$743m? How and when was this announced? I understand an announcement was made by Mr Mellish on December 22?

-Why have costs blown out by so much? Please elaborate on the reasons.

-Am I correct in saying that state govt has committed \$160m for the project? What now, in the wake of the federal government withdrawing \$160m of funding and in the wake of the cost blowout?

-Will the state govt cancel the project, amend the project to make it cheaper, or persist with the project? Why and how? What will that mean for commuters?

-How important are improved transport links in that area?

-Have there been any changes to the plans for the transport corridor and/or roads around the MRIU? If so, what, where and why?

-How many properties have been acquired in the area and how many others have been earmarked for acquisition? Did the state government act prematurely to do so?

**Response: (Please attribute to a Transport and Main Roads spokesperson)**

On 22 December 2023, a revised indicative total cost of \$743.6 million for Stage 1 of the Sunshine Motorway, Mooloolah River Interchange (MRI) Upgrade was announced as part of the Queensland Government's renewed plan for transparency with Queenslanders.

Since preparation of the project's business case and cost estimate in 2020, significant labour and materials cost escalations and unprecedented property market conditions in the Sunshine Coast region have impacted the project budget.

While the Australian Government's Infrastructure Investment Program Review outcomes indicate the MRI Upgrade will no longer receive Australian Government funding, the project remains a priority for the Queensland Government.

Funding contributions for Stage 1 are subject to further consideration and negotiation. The state's \$160 million commitment for Stage 1 remains and design work is progressing.

Stage 1 will address safety and congestion issues that are forecast to increase due to regional population growth and development. It is also the key to unlocking significant public transport and rail projects on the Sunshine Coast and is the trigger for major infrastructure transformation in the region.

The Department of Transport and Main Roads (TMR) acquired 84 residential properties for Stage 1 and is not actively resuming residential properties required for future stages of the MRI Upgrade. However, early acquisition is available to eligible property owners whose properties have been identified as Protected Planning (Category C) in accordance with TMR's *Approved Planning Policy*.

**ENDS**

**Nicholas Adermann**

Principal Advisor (External Affairs) | Media

Strategic Communications Branch

Governance Branch | Corporate Division

**Department of Transport and Main Roads**

P: 07 3066 7313 | M: Not Relevant

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GPO Box 1549 | Brisbane Qld 4001

[Nicholas.g.adermann@tmr.qld.gov.au](mailto:Nicholas.g.adermann@tmr.qld.gov.au)

[www.tmr.qld.gov.au](http://www.tmr.qld.gov.au)

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## Nicholas G Adermann

---

**From:** Nicole Z Davis  
**Sent:** Monday, 12 February 2024 5:09 PM  
**To:** Nicholas G Adermann; Lesley Major; James Kleeman;  
MinisterMellishMedia@ministerial.qld.gov.au  
**Cc:** James X Murphy; Madeline R Cooper Quinn; Media; Matthew R Tewhatu  
**Subject:** RE: Media enquiry for consideration ASAP today: Mooloolah Interchange -  
Sunshine Coast Daily

Hold this please

### Nic Davis

Executive Director, Strategic Communication Unit

**Governance Branch** | Corporate Division | Department of Transport and Main Roads

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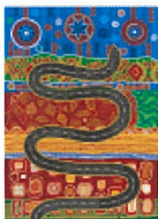
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P: (07) 3338 4129 | M Not Relevant

E: [nzdavis@tmr.qld.gov.au](mailto:nzdavis@tmr.qld.gov.au)

W: [www.tmr.qld.gov.au](http://www.tmr.qld.gov.au)



.....

The Department of Transport and Main Roads acknowledges the Traditional Owners and Custodians of this land.  
We also acknowledge their ancestors and Elders both past and present.

The Department of Transport and Main Roads is committed to reconciliation among all Australians.

.....

---

**From:** Nicholas G Adermann <nicholas.g.adermann@tmr.qld.gov.au>

**Sent:** Monday, 12 February 2024 4:59 PM

**To:** Lesley Major <Lesley.Major@ministerial.qld.gov.au>; James Kleeman <James.Kleeman@ministerial.qld.gov.au>;  
MinisterMellishMedia@ministerial.qld.gov.au

**Cc:** Nicole Z Davis <Nicole.Z.Davis@tmr.qld.gov.au>; James X Murphy <James.X.Murphy@tmr.qld.gov.au>; Madeline  
R Cooper Quinn <Madeline.R.Cooper-Quinn@tmr.qld.gov.au>; Media <media@tmr.qld.gov.au>; Matthew R  
Tewhatu <matthew.r.tewhatu@tmr.qld.gov.au>

**Subject:** Media enquiry for consideration ASAP today: Mooloolah Interchange - Sunshine Coast Daily

Good afternoon Lesley and James,

Apologies for the delay on this one. Please see below a media enquiry we have received, and responses for your consideration.

Happy to discuss further if needed.

Nick

---

**Journalist:** Not Relevant

**Outlet:** Sunshine Coast Daily

**Deadline for approval:** 4pm

**Topic:** Mooloolah Interchange Project

I've seen a few reports that the estimated cost for the Sunshine Motorway, Mooloolah Interchange has increased from \$320m to \$750m, after the Federal Government axed their funding for the project late last year.

Questions below:

- Can you confirm the estimated cost of this project has increased from \$320m to \$750m?
- Was this because the Federal Government pulled funding late last year?
- Does the increase mean the project will still go ahead even after it stalled because of the Federal Government withdrawing support?
- Anything else to add?

**Response: (Please attribute to a Transport and Main Roads spokesperson)**

On 22 December 2023, a revised indicative total cost of \$743.6 million for Stage 1 of the Sunshine Motorway, Mooloolah River Interchange (MRI) Upgrade was announced as part of the Queensland Government's renewed plan for transparency with Queenslanders.

Since preparation of the project's business case and cost estimate in 2020, significant labour and materials cost escalations and unprecedented property market conditions in the Sunshine Coast region have impacted the project budget.

While the Australian Government's Infrastructure Investment Program Review outcomes indicate the MRI Upgrade will no longer receive Australian Government funding, the project remains a priority for the Queensland Government.

Funding contributions for Stage 1 are subject to further consideration and negotiation. The state's \$160 million commitment for Stage 1 remains and design work is progressing.

Stage 1 will address safety and congestion issues that are forecast to increase due to regional population growth and development. It is also the key to unlocking significant public transport and rail projects on the Sunshine Coast and is the trigger for major infrastructure transformation in the region.

**ENDS**

**Nicholas Adermann**

Principal Advisor (External Affairs) | Media  
Strategic Communications Branch  
Governance Branch | Corporate Division  
**Department of Transport and Main Roads**

P: 07 3066 7313 | M: Not Relevant  
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[www.tmr.qld.gov.au](http://www.tmr.qld.gov.au)

**Nicholas G Adermann**

**From:** Nicholas G Adermann  
**Sent:** Monday, 12 February 2024 3:41 PM  
**To:** Lesley Major; TMR Media; MinisterMellishMedia; Minister.Media.Update  
**Cc:** CO Media; James Kleeman  
**Subject:** RE: Afternoon Media Update - Monday 12 February 2024  
**Attachments:** ABC News, Not Relevant Sunshine Coast Daily |  
Not Relevant Mooloolah Interchange project | 4pm deadline

Afternoon Lesley,

Both are attached. We'll hopefully have the MRI response through shortly – noting we have asked the journo for flexibility on their 4pm deadline.

**Nicholas Adermann**  
Principal Advisor (External Affairs) | Media  
Strategic Communications Branch  
Governance Branch | Corporate Division  
**Department of Transport and Main Roads**

P: 07 3066 7313 | M: Not Relevant  
Level 8 | 61 Mary Street | Brisbane Qld 4000  
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[www.tmr.qld.gov.au](http://www.tmr.qld.gov.au)

**From:** Lesley Major <Lesley.Major@ministerial.qld.gov.au>  
**Sent:** Monday, 12 February 2024 3:36 PM  
**To:** TMR Media <mail.doctrak.media.tmr@tmr.qld.gov.au>; MinisterMellishMedia <MinisterMellishMedia@ministerial.qld.gov.au>; Minister.Media.Update <Minister.Media.Update@tmr.qld.gov.au>  
**Cc:** CO Media <CO\_Media@tmr.qld.gov.au>; James Kleeman <James.Kleeman@ministerial.qld.gov.au>  
**Subject:** RE: Afternoon Media Update - Monday 12 February 2024

Thanks – could I please see the Mooloolah Interchange inquiry and the Not Relevant inquiry

**From:** TMR Media <[mail.doctrak.media.tmr@tmr.qld.gov.au](mailto:mail.doctrak.media.tmr@tmr.qld.gov.au)>  
**Sent:** Monday, February 12, 2024 1:37 PM  
**To:** MinisterMellishMedia <[MinisterMellishMedia@ministerial.qld.gov.au](mailto:MinisterMellishMedia@ministerial.qld.gov.au)>; Minister.Media.Update <[Minister.Media.Update@tmr.qld.gov.au](mailto:Minister.Media.Update@tmr.qld.gov.au)>  
**Cc:** TMR Media <[mail.doctrak.media.tmr@tmr.qld.gov.au](mailto:mail.doctrak.media.tmr@tmr.qld.gov.au)>; CO Media <[CO\\_Media@tmr.qld.gov.au](mailto:CO_Media@tmr.qld.gov.au)>; James Kleeman <[James.Kleeman@ministerial.qld.gov.au](mailto:James.Kleeman@ministerial.qld.gov.au)>; Lesley Major <[Lesley.Major@ministerial.qld.gov.au](mailto:Lesley.Major@ministerial.qld.gov.au)>  
**Subject:** Afternoon Media Update - Monday 12 February 2024

Good evening, all,

Please find below this evening's media update:

**Enquiries**

Media Deadline	Media outlet	Short description	Status of Enquiry
Not Relevant			

Not Relevant

Regards,

**Demi Barnett**

Senior Advisor - Media  
Strategic Communications Branch  
Governance Branch | Corporate Division  
Department of Transport and Main Roads

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GPO Box 1549 | Brisbane Qld 4001  
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## Nicholas G Adermann

---

**From:** Lesley Major <Lesley.Major@ministerial.qld.gov.au>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, 14 February 2024 1:38 PM  
**To:** Madeline R Cooper Quinn; James Kleeman  
**Cc:** James X Murphy; Nicole Z Davis; Nicholas G Adermann; Matthew R Tewhatu; Media  
**Subject:** RE: Media Enquiry for consideration by midday - MRI Project - SC News

Good to go

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**From:** Madeline R Cooper Quinn <Madeline.R.Cooper-Quinn@tmr.qld.gov.au>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 14, 2024 11:49 AM  
**To:** Lesley Major <Lesley.Major@ministerial.qld.gov.au>; James Kleeman <James.Kleeman@ministerial.qld.gov.au>  
**Cc:** James X Murphy <James.X.Murphy@tmr.qld.gov.au>; Nicole Z Davis <Nicole.Z.Davis@tmr.qld.gov.au>; Nicholas G Adermann <nicholas.g.adermann@tmr.qld.gov.au>; Matthew R Tewhatu <matthew.r.tewhatu@tmr.qld.gov.au>; Media <media@tmr.qld.gov.au>  
**Subject:** Media Enquiry for consideration by midday - MRI Project - SC News

Hi Lesley,

Please see below MRI response fo Sunshine Coast News for your consideration. This is the same response provided to Sunshine Coast Daily earlier in the week.

Thanks

Maddi

**Outlet:** Sunshine Coast News  
**Journalist:** Not Relevant  
**Deadline:** 12pm today 14/02  
**Topic:** MRI Project

Can I get some comments from someone at TMR regarding the Mooloolah River Interchange Upgrade.

-Can you confirm that plans for the MRIU have been abandoned by the state government (see link immediately below)?

Not Relevant

[Mooloolah River Interchange upgrade shelved | The Courier Mail](#)

- If so, why has it been abandoned?
- If so, what about the properties that have already been acquired?
- If so, what about the impending congestion there associated with a growing population?

### Response (please attribute to Transport and Main Roads spokesperson)

The Australian Government has advised the MRI Upgrade will no longer receive Australian Government funding, following their Infrastructure Investment Program Review.

While the MRI Upgrade project remains a priority for the Queensland Government, it cannot be delivered without Federal support.

The Queensland Government continues to invest heavily in important transport projects in the growing Sunshine Coast region, including Bruce Highway upgrades, the Beerburrum to Nambour rail line and the Bells Creek Arterial Road.

Land acquired for the MRI project will be retained for future upgrades, including the Sunshine Coast Direct rail line.

**ENDS**

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