



The Hon Michael McCormack MP

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Deputy Prime Minister  
Minister for Infrastructure, Transport and Regional Development  
Leader of The Nationals  
Federal Member for Riverina

Ref: MC20-008337

04 NOV 2020

Ms Terri Butler MP  
Member for Griffith  
PO Box 737  
COORPAROO QLD 4151

*Terri*

Dear Ms Butler

Thank you for your letter of 15 September 2020 and subsequent letters of 29 September and 16 October 2020 regarding the Australian Government's Black Spot Program and congestion on the south side of Brisbane.

Road safety is everyone's responsibility and all levels of government have a key role to play in delivering safer roads. That is why the Australian Government is investing an additional \$2.2 billion in road safety funding from 2019–20 through the Local and State Government Road Safety Package. Under the package, an additional \$550 million has been allocated to the Black Spot Program, which targets known high-risk locations and reduces on average serious crashes by 30 per cent. This additional funding brings the total commitment to the Program to \$1.1 billion from 2013-14 to 2023-24.

The Black Spot Program funds both sites where crashes have occurred, as well as sites where crashes are at risk of occurring. Since 2013-14, the Government has committed \$4,741,244 to Black Spot Projects in the electorate of Griffith.

I understand that you have specific concerns about the safety of the Cavendish Road and Kitchener Street/Holdsworth Street intersection in Coorparoo. Black Spot Program funding for this intersection can be a consideration for 2021-22 or subsequent years if a nomination is submitted.

Sites can be nominated for Black Spot funding by councils, the state road authority and by individuals or other organisations. Further information about the Black Spot Program, including the nomination form and eligibility criteria, can be found on the Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Communications website at [www.investment.infrastructure.gov.au/infrastructure\\_investment/black\\_spot/how\\_to\\_nominate\\_a\\_black\\_spot.aspx](http://www.investment.infrastructure.gov.au/infrastructure_investment/black_spot/how_to_nominate_a_black_spot.aspx).

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All sites nominated for Black Spot Program funding within Queensland are first assessed by the Queensland Department of Transport and Main Roads, which has details of the crash history of the site and the technical expertise to assess the appropriate treatment. Eligible nominations are then considered by the Queensland Black Spot Consultative Panel, and projects recommended by the panel are then submitted to me for approval.

As you are aware, the Government is investing \$2 billion through the 2020-21 Budget on a new Road Safety Program, delivering an estimated 3,000 kilometres of road improvements. The Road Safety Program is part of the ongoing commitment to improving road safety for all Australians and reducing the number of deaths and serious injuries on our roads. This program will provide an estimated 35% reduction in fatal and serious injuries to help reduce the \$30 billion annual cost of road trauma on the economy.

Overall, the Australian Government works with jurisdictions to determine and fund priority projects. The inclusion of projects in the Australian Government's infrastructure investment program is dependent on the availability of funding and prioritisation by jurisdictions. Should the Queensland Government prioritise additional projects focused on reducing congestion, the Australian Government would be prepared to consider a proposal under a future infrastructure investment program.

Under the Local Roads and Community Infrastructure Program (LRCI Program), the Brisbane City Council has been allocated almost \$12 million in grants, which is funding the delivery of 24 projects throughout Brisbane. This funding supports local councils to deliver priority local road and community infrastructure projects, supporting jobs and the resilience of local economies to help communities recover from the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic. Through the 2020-21 Budget, the Australian Government announced a \$1 billion extension of the LRCI Program, following strong community and local government support, bringing the total commitment to \$1.5 billion. I encourage you to talk to the Brisbane City Council regarding the next stage of project selection under extension of the LRCI Program.

Thank you for bringing your concerns to my attention and I trust this information is of assistance.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Michael McCormack".

Michael McCormack