



Garth HAMILTON MP

Federal Member for **Groom**



The Hon Mark Bailey MP
Minister for Transport and Main Roads
GPO Box 2644
BRISBANE QLD 4001

Dear Minister

I draw to your attention the proposed *Toowoomba North South Transport Corridor Planning*, which is seeking to identify a new road link between high growth areas north of Toowoomba, and the southern part of the City of Toowoomba.

As you would be aware by now, many residents, businesses, farmers and landholders in the Toowoomba region are alarmed at the proposal being put forward by the Department of Transport and Main Roads (DTMR).

Residents are concerned that the proposal unnecessarily cuts through properties and will destroy the lifestyle and livelihoods of those living in the area. Many are distraught as they have purchased land, and recently built or plan to build, a home or business and were unaware of this proposal.

I understand the need for an upgraded road link between the northern and southern suburbs of Toowoomba to cater for rapid growth in commuters and road freight, but it is critical the project has community support.

In recent weeks, TMR officials have fronted the community and sought to explain the lack of consultation and what it means for residents. Unfortunately, they are working within constraints and cannot provide adequate answers to many questions or satisfy residents' concerns.

Minister, I urge you to ensure the department commits to full, open and transparent consultation, and incorporates feedback received when considering an alternative road link. Further, I invite you to the region to discuss concerns with residents so you can fully understand the angst caused by the current proposal, including the lack of consultation.

Yours sincerely,

GARTH HAMILTON MP
FEDERAL MEMBER FOR GROOM

3 August 2023