



Minister for Transport; Planning

Our ref: 72-29337

Your ref: Petition No 167 (A850887)

Hon M Swinbourn MLC
Chair
Standing Committee on Environment and Public Affairs
Legislative Council Committee Office
c/o – env@parliament.wa.gov.au

Dear Chair

PETITION NO.167 – TONKIN GAP PROJECT

Thank you for your letter dated 22 October 2020, regarding petition no.167 tabled by Hon Tim Clifford MLC, concerning noise attenuation measures on the Tonkin Gap Project. I recently met with representatives of local community groups in Redcliffe, Ascot and Bayswater to discuss options to minimise traffic noise.

As background, the State Government recently formed an Alliance comprising BMD, Georgiou Group, WA Limestone, BG&E, GHD, Main Roads and the Public Transport Authority to deliver the Tonkin Gap Project.

Tonkin Highway will be widened between Dunreath Drive and Collier Road to address a significant and historic bottleneck in the metropolitan road network. New interchanges linking Tonkin Highway with Guildford Road and Great Eastern Highway will also be built as part of the project, along with improved cycling infrastructure and enabling works for the METRONET Morley-Ellenbrook Line.

I would like to reassure petitioners that Main Roads is committed to protecting the community from unreasonable levels of transport noise. We are currently exploring all options available to ensure optimum amenity for the surrounding communities

In response to the feedback received so far, I will address some of the concerns that have been raised about noise walls and sound attenuation for the project:

- No final decisions have been made about the exact location or nature of noise walls for the Tonkin Gap Project.
- Community consultation is continuing and we have been listening to feedback received through letters, drop-in sessions and the petition. We are aware of community concerns relating to noise walls and whether they will extend across the new bridge.
- As a result of initial community feedback about sound attenuation, the alliance team carried out additional noise measurements and modelling to help inform the final scope of sound attenuation measures.

Further to these points, I would like to highlight that noise walls are not the only noise mitigation option being investigated. Following discussions with Belmont MLA Cassie Rowe, Bassendean MLA Dave Kelly and Maylands MLA Lisa Baker, I have asked Main Roads to explore all possible measures and types of noise mitigation as part of its ongoing project development. As an example, we are also looking at asphalt types that deliver the best balance of minimal tyre noise and durability.

The Tonkin Gap Project, combined with METRONET's Airport Link and Morley-Ellenbrook Line, will help address the current congestion problem through this corridor and enable a more free-flowing road.

I look forward to working with the community to achieve the best possible outcome. Thank you for writing on this matter.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, consisting of a large, stylized 'R' followed by a series of loops and a long horizontal stroke.

**HON RITA SAFFIOTI MLA
MINISTER FOR TRANSPORT**

17 NOV 2020