

1 March 2016

To Whom It May Concern

Re: Inland Queensland Roads Action Plan (IQ-RAP)

Townsville Enterprise Limited is the peak body for Economic Development, Tourism and Events and the Convention Bureau for the Townsville North Queensland region and supports the vision for the IQ-RAP to increase the quality and accessibility of the road network to maximise the economic prosperity of inland Queensland.

Townsville Enterprise Limited directly services the five Local Governments in the North Queensland region and strongly supports the IQ-RAP initiative that will benefit the greater regional Queensland area consisting of the 33 Local Governments and neighbouring areas.

The Australian Government has assigned a high priority to the development of Northern Australia, which includes a focus on improving public infrastructure in the region, with the IQ-RAP being the first strategic level analysis and prioritisation of a road network of around 16,000 kilometres of rural roads, covering 82% of Queensland.

With Queensland's industry and business base being broadly distributed, having 52% or \$140 billion of Queensland's annual Gross State Product generated outside Brisbane, the Inland Queensland road network is of vital significance to key industries such as mining, gas, agriculture, tourism and the freight and logistics industries, which supports the wholesale and retail sectors.

The IQ-RAP strategic road planning and prioritisation of the inland road network can improve resilience and connectivity for the delivery of goods and services to communities and also improve productivity for industries and businesses along supply chains, as well as strengthen competitiveness to ensure North Queensland and regional Queensland businesses grow.

The delivery of each road project will require planning, design and construction which will provide immediate jobs, while long-term jobs will be created through ongoing road maintenance. A funded forward program will also provide certainty for Local Governments to retain critical skill sets in regional Queensland.

This plan will drive Queensland's economy forward, attract new investment into rural and regional areas and increase productivity across Australia's transport network.

Yours faithfully



A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Patricia O'Callaghan".

Patricia O'Callaghan
Chief Executive Officer