Deputy Premier Treasurer Minister for Infrastructure



Level 10, Executive Building, 15 Murray Street, Hobart TAS 7000 Public Buildings, 53 St John Street, Launceston GPO Box 123, Hobart TAS 7001 Phone: (03) 6165 7701 [Email: Michael.Ferguson@dpac.tas.gov.au

Ms Rebekah Pentland MP Jacqui Lambie Network member for Bass

Email: laura.ross@parliament.tas.gov.au

2 1 AUG 2024

Dear Ms Pentland

Thank you for your constituent question asked on 7 August 2024 in Parliament on behalf of your constituents in relation to the Kings Meadows connecting lane from the Midland Highway, asking:

"Will the government make the necessary safety improvements to the road infrastructure of the Midlands Highway as a matter of urgency before a serious accident occurs?"

The Department of State Growth is aware of occasional traffic queuing beyond the length of the Midland Highway and Kings Meadows Link southbound exit ramp during peak periods. This is an emerging issue which, I am advised, is occurring due to significant subdivision residential growth in the area causing the roundabout to be overloaded from the East.

The Department will engage consultants to design an extension to the existing exit ramp. The design work will be used to determine the cost of the extension, which will help identify the future funding required for its construction.

As a temporary measure, the department has installed static warning signs on the Midland Highway before the Kings Meadows Link exit, alerting road users of potential queuing ahead.

I have received a number of contacts from members of the public about this matter you have raised. I am advised that on at least one occasion where queuing onto the Highway was lengthy, the congestion emanated from a multiple vehicle crash on the local road network in Kings Meadows.

Thank you for raising these matters in Parliament, I trust this information is helpful.

Yours sincerely

Michael Ferguson MP **Deputy Premier**

Minister for Infrastructure