

Our Ref: 00315194

Ms Tamara Smith MP Member for Ballina Shop 1, 7 Moon Street BALLINA NSW 2478

Dear Ms Smith

Thank you for your correspondence to the Premier, which was referred to the Minister for Transport and Infrastructure, on behalf of Mr Paul Jones, President of the Butler Street Community Network, about a proposed town bypass in Byron Bay. The Minister asked me to respond on his behalf.

I am advised the Casino to Murwillumbah railway line corridor is unsuitable for road use while maintaining the existing rail infrastructure. However, if Byron Shire Council, the relevant road authority, wishes to propose the construction of a road within a specific section of the rail corridor in the vicinity of Byron Bay, the NSW Government would be happy to consider its proposal in further detail.

Mr Jones may be interested to know that opportunities for transport improvements across NSW, including Byron Bay, will be considered as part of the NSW Government's *Future Transport Strategy*. This strategy is a new approach to transport planning to meet the demands of the predicted population growth in NSW.

The NSW Government will seek consultation from the community and industry for input into the strategy this year. For more information, Mr Jones may wish to visit the *Future Transport Strategy* website at future.transport.nsw.gov.au.

1/6/2017

I trust this information is of assistance.

Yours sincerely

Mark Coure

Parliamentary Secretary for Transport and Infrastructure