

## RESPONSE TO PETITION

**Petition Number:** 551  
**Petition Sponsored by:** Ann-Marie Hermans  
**Directed to:** Hon Melissa Horne MP  
**Tabled on:** 18 June 2024

**Petition Grievance:**

The petition of certain citizens of the State of Victoria draws to the attention of the Legislative Council that regular maintenance of VicRoads assets is being ignored across Frankston City, including mowing, weed removal, and graffiti removal.

**Petition Action:**

The petitioners therefore request that the Legislative Council call on the Government to reinstate regular maintenance of VicRoads assets across Frankston City and ensure there is money in the State Budget for the VicRoads maintenance budget.

**Reply:**

The Department of Transport and Planning (DTP) undertakes inspections, maintenance and repairs in accordance with its Road Management Plan (RMP) as required under the Road Management Act 2004. The RMP includes measures for responding to potential roadside hazards that may impact on road users. DTP's highest priority for managing the network is to ensure the focus is for ongoing public safety to further reduce the risk of incidents or accidents is maintained.

Roadside vegetation management is an important part of keeping our roads safe for all users, as well as managing bushfire risks.

DTP plans and delivers a program of works that aims to ensure the roadside is safe. This includes making sure vegetation does not block drivers' views and preparing for the fire season by reducing fuels along roadsides.

The timing of grass cutting differs each year, based on rainfall, temperature, spring growth and advice from emergency services.

DTP works closely with emergency services, including the Country Fire Authority (CFA), Victoria Police, Department of Energy, Environment and Climate Action (DEECA) and local councils to co-ordinate and prioritise vegetation management efforts in the highest risk areas, including Frankston City Council.

DTP recognises the importance of vegetation management to both residents and motorists using the road network.

Other maintenance activities such as graffiti and weed removal are prioritised in accordance with the RMP. Within this context, DTP is committed to remove graffiti when it is blocking safety signs or is of an offensive nature. Weed control will be managed when it is causing a safety concern to the general public, such as blocking signs or sightlines towards intersections.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Melissa Horne', with a stylized flourish at the end.

**Hon Melissa Horne MP**

Minister for Casino, Gaming and Liquor Regulation

Minister for Local Government

Minister for Roads and Road Safety

Minister for Ports and Freight