11 January 2018

Dear Sir/Madam

Thank you for the invitation to provide input into the Law Reform, Road and Community Safety Committee’s Inquiry into VicRoads’ Management of Country Roads.

Regarding the four points identified by the Inquiry, we have the following comments:

The effectiveness of VicRoads in managing country roads:

From a Wyndham perspective, there is no major concern regarding VicRoads’ effectiveness in managing country roads.

The existing funding model and its lack of effectiveness for country Victoria:

Wyndham City Council support the current regionally based prioritisation approach.

The lack of consultation with regional communities and their lack of input into prioritising which roads are in dire need of repair:

Officers from Wyndham City Council regularly meet with officers from VicRoads on prioritisation of upgrades and highlighting areas of maintenance concerns. From a Wyndham perspective, there is sufficient consultation.

The option of dismantling VicRoads and creating a specific Country Roads organisation and separate Metropolitan Roads body:

Wyndham City Council does not support the proposal to dismantle VicRoads and create a specific Country Roads organisation.
From our perspective, the primary cause of concern is the lack of funding for both the planning, prioritising and actual funding for maintenance work.

Developing a specific Country Roads organisation would not solve the issue of lack of funding, but would create an additional bureaucratic structure and additional integration challenges around road management responsibilities.

If you have any further questions relating to this issue or desire clarification on these comments please contact Council’s Traffic and Transport Coordinator - Peter Fung on [Contact Information]

Yours faithfully

MANAGER CITY TRANSPORT