Inquiry Name: Inquiry into VicRoads' Management of Country Roads

Mr Joey Yeo

SUBMISSION CONTENT:

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Dear Sir / Madam,

I am writing to express my concerns about the conditions of some of the roads that I have frequently traveled on, the implications on the vehicles and users, and recommendations for committee's consideration.

I travel on a daily basis the following roads: Yan Yean Road and Plenty Road to and fro work. While there are sections of the road that are pretty well leveled and well maintained, there are significant segments where potholes are prevalent and the paving were highly uneven. One significant example is Rosanna Road where the inner road is highly uneven due to the parallel drainage network, and I observed that heavy vehicles have been avoiding the inner lanes due to the risk of toppling. With heavy vehicles taking the outer lanes, there is a high risk of head-on collision as there is no central divider.

This is not just a user comfort issue. It pertains to the durability of our vehicles on the road and also poses danger to users as there is a possibility of large vehicles losing control of the vehicle when passing through the potholes or uneven grounds. Accidents may also happen for cases where some of the users deliberately avoid the potholes but were not aware of their surroundings.

I recommend that roads should be inspected, audited and rated on a regular basis by an independent agency. Results from this audit and rating should be made public and councils / Vic Roads and state government must work together to address the adverse outcomes. The frequency of the auditing and rating should have some relationship to the user rate of the road and the age of the road, and a simple-to-understand set of rating categories (e.g. fire ratings) should be used in assessing the condition of the roads. In addition, public feedback on roads which urgently require repairs should be taken into account during this audit.

I hope you will seriously review my recommendations. Thank you.
Regards,
Joey Yeo
A concerned resident

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File1:

File2:

File3: