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To: LRRCSC
Subject: Submission on VicRoads
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Attachments: Decentralization.pdf

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(1) **Decentralization.**
Regional Highways and Major roads. Since the centralization of VicRoads, and the abandonment of The Country Roads Board, Regional Victorian Highways and roads have been neglected, and when repaired or reconstructed, whether it be due to budgetary constraints, what we are seeing is less than satisfactory life span, of repairs and reconstruction.

Regional managers, are needed to (a) Understand the environmental requirements and standards required in different geological regions. (b) Understand the environmental requirements of hydrology. (c) Understand weather, its effects of surfaces. It would seem at the moment under the current management that band aid measures in regards the construction and maintenance is a costly failure. Road repairs are patches on patches with the total cause of the recurring problem being ignored. A fix it once, and fix it properly approach is required.

(2) **Establish an Independent Office of auditing of VicRoads.**
Many like myself, are of the belief that Victorians are not getting their bang for buck. Many believe that VicRoads right now, at this point in time, is misdirecting funds. Too much money spent on spin doctors, and only publishing the selective research that strengthens VicRoads own agenda, is nothing but outrageous and gratuitous. Example: The introduction of WRB across regional Victoria, and the total disregard, for the methodology, the standards of installation from both the manufactures and VicRoads own guidelines. On the subject of WRB, why is left in an unrepaid state for periods extending past 3 months. The total degradation and ignoring of the state rural highways all while WRB is being installed in my view in substandard manner. (Outside the recommendations of both manufactures, and VicRoads own guidelines and well outside the grounds of the testing done by MUARC). Not treating the cause, treating the symptom.

(3) **Establish an independent office for the collection of crash data and investigation.**
As per the 2012 Parliamentary Inquiry into motorcycle safety. How much money did VicRoads spend discrediting that?
The totally inept, collection of crash data, by VicPol, on a tick box form supplied by VicRoads. This information, needs to be made available to all, including the government, the shadow government, as well as all stakeholder groups and interested individuals.

(4) **Establish an independent, standards of construction, and research centre.**
MUARC is not a good example in fact could be used as the perfect bad example. It would seem that VicRoads sets an agenda and MUARC then is set to task to prove it. Even at the expense of the real truth.
To establish and set of construction standards and of materials. VicRoads has long used overseas studies in pursuing its own goals, however many times it has been found wanting, with other studies refuting the claims of VicRoads. It is time for a more balanced approach. Instead of setting an agenda first, then looking for previous studies published overseas, that supports VicRoads agenda, even if they are out of date, and their environment needs, geology, topography and climate are totally different from ours.

(5) **A Complete review, of VicRoads, and the awarding of contracts.**
I, like many Victorians, are starting to believe, that graft and corruption, with the awarding of contract system is rife. Substandard works and repairs. All Victorian’s deserve an open and transparent VicRoads, this includes its policies and agendas.

(6) **Education.**
Lack of driver education, and re-education. Example: When Lane filtering was introduced for motorcycle and scooter riders, why was there not an ongoing education like there was, when the ludicrous 40KPH law when passing emergency vehicle law? To many car drivers are still unaware that lane filtering is legal, and go out of their way to hinder the progress of motorcycle and scooter riders and abuse then while preforming a legal and safe practice.

As a regional heavy vehicle, motor vehicle and motorcycle rider, why is there so many right hand road hogs? Many with green and red P plates. VicRoads need to get back to basics. Educate and re-educate.