

COUNCILLOR MOTION - INCIDENTS OF ROAD STRIKE ON WELLINGTON ROAD - CR MCILWAIN

Ward(s) affected: All Wards;

The author(s) of this report and the Responsible Officer consider that the report complies with the overarching governance principles and supporting principles set out in the Local Government Act 2020.

CONFIDENTIALITY

This item is to be considered at a Council meeting that is open to the public.

SUMMARY

Council is aware of a rise in wildlife road strikes along Wellington Road in Lyster Ward over the past year, highlighted by a Petition to Council that will continue to be investigated by Officers. This arterial road runs through the middle of wildlife habitat of high conservation value that is situated either side of the road from Rowville to Emerald. Wellington Road is a feeder road to suburbs that include designated growth areas between Berwick and Pakenham. There is already a high level of traffic on this road with population projections indicating that road use will continue to increase over the next decade. Therefore, possible actions to minimise wildlife road strike along Wellington Road, should include both immediate and long-term approaches.

At the Council Meeting 12 August 2025, the following motion was carried unanimously:

That Council

- 1) Receives and notes the "Wildlife Fatalities along Wellington Road" petition in accordance with the Governance Rule and refers this petition to the appropriate officers for investigation and response.*
- 2) Prepare a report to come to a future Council Forum before the end of October 2025.*

The current motion responds to the urgency of this matter by extending councils' response to the petition by enabling advocacy to the Victorian Parliament with reference to the Department of Transport which has authority over Wellington Road. The matter is urgent for two reasons: 1) there is immediate and substantial risk to wildlife and driver safety and, 2) the Victorian Parliament is currently holding an Inquiry into wildlife road strike in Victoria which is reporting in November this year. Given that the Inquiry has already made reference to the matter of Wellington Road this motion is timely.

COUNCILLOR MOTION

That Council

1. *Requests that the Mayor write to the relevant Minister that the issue of a significant increase in the incidents of road strike on Wellington Road, be addressed as a matter of urgency, and steps be taken to minimise the deaths and injury of wildlife and the increased risk to driver safety.*
2. *Recognises the long-term threat to wildlife and driver safety that increased road usage poses.*