

14 August 2022

Shire of Yarra Ranges  
Public Submissions – Special Charge Scheme  
PO Box 105  
LILYDALE VIC 3140

By email: [roadsforcommunity@yarraranges.vic.gov.au](mailto:roadsforcommunity@yarraranges.vic.gov.au)

Dear Sir/Madam,

RE: Public Submission - Special Charge Scheme  
- Roads for the Community Road construction project  
PPTY: 15 Bretby Way, Montrose  
I hereby object to the above Road Improvement Works.

Bretby Way, as well as the wider suburb of Montrose, is characterised by leafy surrounds in a rural, bush setting. The unmade road which comprises Bretby Way contributes greatly to this characterisation, the reason that many choose to live in this area. Sealing Bretby Way would dramatically alter the very essence of the location.

Further concerns extend to the environmental impact and habitat destruction required to fulfil the planned works. Bretby Way is home to many native animals, birds and local flora, not excluding blue tongue lizards and other protected reptiles. The proposed design for the works shows the destruction of the trees lining the road to be sealed, trees that provide vital habitat for native wildlife and contribute to the environmental integrity of Bretby Way. The removal of such trees is also in contradiction of the council's endorsement of the liveable climate action plan and commitment to the development and implementation of a tree strategy "...to grow a healthy and resilient treescape across suburbs and townships."

The works are unnecessary and the negative impacts upon residents of excessive costs in a time of increased cost of living, disruption to daily living, and loss of bush ambience, far outweigh the suggested benefits of dust minimisation and year-round accessibility. Most properties are elevated from the unmade road and are excluded from your claim of potential dust hazard and having lived at this address for over 15 years, have never faced inaccessibility of the road at any time of the year due to weather impacts.

Regarding the excessive cost, I note that the levy proposed for my property has been determined as 2.00 development units. I also object to this as my property is, according to Council definitions, a standard development as it is single lot not capable of intensive development.

Further, regarding the cost of the planned works, I note that the council states that "...standard properties that share a boundary with the roads being constructed and gain primary (vehicular) access from another road will normally pay a half charge or \$3,500". Please advise how the major property owner on the street, Melbourne Water, will be contributing to the cost of the planned works.

Please accept this letter as my official objection to the proposed planned works, and acknowledge receipt. I also wish to be notified and present at any meeting held by Council in this regard.