

To the Yarra Ranges Council

I am a resident of Rankins Road Monbulk.

Recently I saw a public notice in the local paper Public Notices about Special Charges Schemes Road Improvement Works. This was regarding the intention by the Council to seal bituminize and put in permanent road water drainage for the roads Cedar Way, Burns Way, Loch Avenue, Harvest Close and Mayview Drive Monbulk. This notice was for the Proposed Special Charge for this.

My interest in this, is that the proposed works only cover the previously mentioned streets and not the part of Rankins Road which is also a road on this 'housing estate'.

The part of Rankins Road that leads directly into Mayview Road, from David Hill Road is also a part of this housing area. Thus, I request that this part of Rankins Road (from David Hill Road to Mayview Drive) be included in the proposed bituminization of these roads.

I request this because this part of Rankins Road receives a very high volume of traffic for a 'dirt road'. There are 25 driveways from ordinary housing (rather than larger 'country style' properties, that lead onto this part of Rankins Road. In addition, Rankins Road is very frequently used as a 'short cut' from David Hill Road to Emerald-Monbulk Road by NON local traffic. This traffic is anything from cars to larger trade utility vehicles to very large trucks and heavy loaders carrying large equipment to and from the Emerald-Monbulk Road

Thus, the houses on this section of David Hill Road up to Mayview Road receive all of this traffic in addition to that from the local 25 drives coming onto this section of road.

These houses, includes my own at (Redacted), are close to the road and in summer received high amounts of choking dust. As older people (in my and my husband's cases) this provokes many asthma attacks and discomfort in summer, not to speak of the dust that gets into our house. Other residents must have similar problems.

In both summer and winter the potholes in this section of road are particularly bad. I have attached some photos showing potholes in this section of road in the last few weeks. These constantly reoccurring potholes are often right outside our driveways which we have difficulty negotiating to avoid harm to our vehicles. In fact, just recently an Australian post office van came off the drive and landed in the drainage ditch and had to be towed out.

In addition to potholes, in places the substrata of the road is being exposed causing more problems with ever increasing erosion on this road section (here again I have included photos of this). The substrata erosion is because the first half of this road section from David Hill Road is steep and there are huge amounts of runoff when there are frequent heavy rains in winter. This type of 'dirt' road is simply not fit for purpose on this section of road.

The storm drain is constantly having to be cleaned and made deeper and wider which makes the road narrower and narrower and with an increasing likelihood of cars landing up in the storm drain as happened with the post office van.

This section of road we are constantly requesting be re-graded because the road deteriorates so rapidly. The road currently was regraded a week ago and the potholes started to reappear in a single day!!

I request that this section of road be bituminized with the Mayview Drive Road area. This will relieve the plight of those of us living in this section of Rankins Road and save the council the near constant need to regrade this section of road.