

27 January 2015

Ms Laura Royce
Coroners Registrar
65 Kavanagh Street
SOUTHBANK 3006



Dear Ms Royce

Re: COR 2013 005350 & COR 2013 005349 – Investigation into the death of John & Margaret Pace

I refer to your letter 6 November 2014. Council has for some time been advocating for the upgrade of the Western Freeway between Melton and Caroline Springs to freeway standard, including the removal of at grade intersections.

As you would be aware the Western Freeway is a VicRoads asset. A Council report was prepared in response to the finding and went to Council on 16 December 2014, as a result council resolved to:

1. Write to VicRoads advising them of its support for the Coroner's recommendations and requesting them to take the appropriate action to see these works occur as soon as possible.
2. Respond the Coroners Court of Victoria in support of the recommendations into both deaths and include a copy of VicRoads letter of evidence of action taken.
3. Write to Local Members of State Parliament and the State Minister for Roads, requesting their support for the works.

Council wrote the VicRoads Regional Director – Metro North West Region, on 22 December 2014 (see attached) in support of your recommendations and inviting further discussion on the matter. A meeting occurred on 16 January 2015 with Mr Adam Maguire, Regional Director – Metro North West Region where this matter and the proposed treatments were discussed.

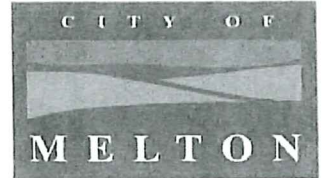
Thank you for your consideration of this important matter and I acknowledge your proactive approach to addressing road safety outcomes for our community.

Please do not hesitate to contact me on (03) 9747-7163 if you wish to discuss this matter further.

Yours Sincerely



Les Stokes
MANAGER – ENGINEERING SERVICES



22 December 2014

COPY

Ms Patricia Liew
Regional Director
VicRoads
Private Bag 4000
Sunshine, 3020

Dear Patricia

Re: Western Highway, Coroners findings into the death of John & Margaret Pace

I refer to Council's previous correspondence dated 25 November 2014, As Council's ordinary meeting 16 December 2014, council resolved to:

1. Write to VicRoads advising them of its support for the Coroner's recommendations and requesting them to take the appropriate action to see these works occur as soon as possible.
2. Respond the Coroners Court of Victoria in support of the recommendations into both deaths and include a copy of VicRoads letter of evidence of action taken.
3. Write to Local Members of State Parliament and the State Minister for Roads, requesting their support for the works.

Accordingly Council fully supports the findings of the Coroner and the recommendations with respect to the closure of the median strip crossovers on the Western Highway.

Council would like to meet with VicRoads to discuss how this might be achieved as soon as possible, please contact me (03) 9747 7163 to arrange a suitable time to meet.

Yours Sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Les Stokes".

Les Stokes
MANAGER – ENGINEERING SERVICES