



Please Quote: VRPC006740
(File No: PC023629)

Ms Melissa Purdy
Coroners Registrar
Coroners Court of Victoria
65 Kavanagh Street
SOUTHBANK VIC 3006

Dear Ms Purdy

INVESTIGATION INTO THE DEATH OF THEODORE ATSAVES

I refer to your letter dated 3 March 2015, regarding the investigation into the death of Mr Theodore Atsaves.

The Coroner's recommendation states the following:

VicRoads should review the whole stretch of road along Yarra Boulevard and consider installing vehicle barriers at those points where it is possible that a vehicle that has left the road might enter the Yarra River.

Following the Coroner's recommendation, VicRoads has investigated whether the installation of safety barriers on the river side of the Yarra Boulevard in Kew would be eligible for funding consideration. The current funding programs for road safety improvements are within the Federal Department of Infrastructure and Regional Development's Black Spot Programme and the Transport Accident Commission's Safe System Road Infrastructure Program (SSRIP).

Lane departure projects that are eligible for Black Spot Programme funding are those where the minimum crash rate for a road segment is 0.13 casualty crashes per kilometre per year over the latest five-year period.

Lane departure projects that are eligible for SSRIP funding are those:

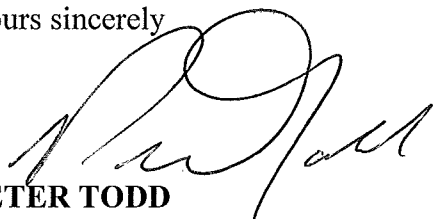
- where there is a demonstrated trend of lane departure casualty crashes resulting in serious or 'other' injury; or
- on road segments of a nominal length of five kilometres in an urban area (including the outer fringe of townships), that have a minimum of 0.8 casualty crashes per kilometre over the most recent five-year period.

VicRoads' analysis of the casualty crashes that have occurred in the five years to 31 December 2014 along the entire length of Yarra Boulevard, focusing on the crashes where a vehicle ran off the road towards the Yarra River, has shown that this route does not meet the minimum eligibility criteria for consideration for funding under either program.

Notwithstanding the above, VicRoads will undertake an independent road safety audit focusing on lengths of the Yarra Boulevard where vehicles may be vulnerable to running off the road and entering the Yarra River. The audit is expected to assist VicRoads in prioritising sections of Yarra Boulevard for further investigation and to determine what potential treatments would be effective in safely keeping vehicles on the road. VicRoads expects the audit to be completed in August 2015.

Should you require any further information, Mr Aidan McGann, VicRoads' Regional Director – Metropolitan South East (Tel: 9881 8800), would be pleased to assist.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Peter Todd', written over a large, stylized circular flourish.

PETER TODD
CHIEF OPERATING OFFICER

3/105/2015