



Ms Sharon Royal
Coroner's Registrar
Coroners Court of Victoria
134 Commercial Road
MORWELL VIC 3840

Eastern Victoria Headquarters
PO Box 158 Traralgon Victoria 3844

Telephone (03) 5172 2666
Fax (03) 5176 1016

vicroads.vic.gov.au

8 July 2013

Contact: Richard O'Brien
Telephone: (03) 5172 2661
Your Ref: COR2012000193
Our Ref: 2066147

Dear Ms Royal

I refer to your letter of 6 June 2013 in relation to the VicRoads investigation of the death of Ms Pamela Matthews on Phillip Island Rd, Surf Beach in January 2012. You outline the concerns raised by Ms Matthew's partner, Mr Gerrard Craig, regarding the design of that road.

In October 2012, the Minister for Roads committed \$70,000 to road safety improvements on Phillip Island Rd, Surf Beach, including improved road markings to minimize high speed overtaking, and new highly visible speed zone and road safety signs. These works have been completed.

Mr Craig proposes a number of additional road changes. VicRoads has considered each of these suggestions and responds as follows.

- The proposed seasonal 60km/h speed limit along on Phillip Island Road within the vicinity of Surf Beach has been converted to a permanent 60km/h speed limit. The 60km/h speed zone will remain in place 365 days a year.
- In relation to the construction of dedicated right turn lanes, this approach would require the use of the sealed shoulder as an ancillary lane. The shoulder has not been constructed to facilitate the volume of traffic on this road on a permanent basis, and significant works would be required to implement this treatment. Similarly significant road works would be required to construct roundabouts at intersections, as the widening of both carriageways would be necessary to ensure lane widths met current standards.
- Mr Craig suggests that the creation of a four lane divided road would be the best answer. This would be a significant infrastructure project. The Victorian Government and the Bass Coast Shire Council are currently working on the Phillip Island Integrated Transport Study to provide a framework for road improvement through to 2030. This Study is due to report in September 2013 and will inform any consideration of a significant upgrade.

- VicRoads has no objections to this response, and its correspondence to the Southern Communities Planning Group dated 26 February 2013, being circulated by Mr. Craig to local residents.

Overall, I can ensure you that VicRoads will continue to monitor the road safety and operational performance of this section of the Phillip Island Road.

Please do not hesitate to contact me on Tel: 5172 2608 should you wish to discuss this matter further.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Motta", enclosed within a blue oval shape.

**SEBASTIAN MOTTA
REGIONAL DIRECTOR – EASTERN VICTORIA**