

## ROADS COMMUNITY MEETING – GROUP 5

23 MARCH 2026 | 10AM–1PM | LOTUS CREEK

### PRESENT

Name	Affiliation	Name	Affiliation
Iain Day	Community	Natalie Shepherd	IRC
Harry Kemp	Community	Chris McColl	IRC
Jack Speed	Community	Lila Fry	IRC
David Kemp	Community	Joel Kuczynski	IRC
Cr Jane Pickels	Deputy Mayor	Sean Robinson	IRC
Cr Viv Coleman	Councillor	Kylie Dowd	IRC
Bob Stephen	IRC	Luke Podham	

### MINUTES

#### Opening

- Meeting opened by Cr Jane Pickels (Deputy Mayor and Chair, Infrastructure Services Standing Committee) and Bob Stephen (Manager, Roads Infrastructure).
- Bob Stephen introduced Council staff members and their roles in the organisation and referenced the ongoing action items collated and shown in the presentation.

#### ROADS PROGRAM

- DRFA update provided with a general overview of the recent weather event. Teams are completing emergent works, which must be completed within the first 3 months to be eligible to submit a claim. IRC has completed the eastern area submission for approx. \$30m, which is based on QRA rates (noting these are inflated and only actual costs can be claimed). IRC is working on the best way to program these rectification works alongside programmed work to achieve the best outcome for the network.
- Road User Rating classification and service levels, broken down per road, were presented to the community, with a request for feedback to be provided to IRC. The Roads team will present the proposed service levels to Council in April.
- Discussion to clarify that reactive maintenance and inspections capture defects and collect photos, not compliance. If the community has a specific issue, please contact Council for a site visit with an overseer or coordinator. Councillor and officer contact numbers will be provided with the minutes of the meeting for direct contact.

## VOLUNTEER WORKS

- Update provided on the amended Volunteer Roads Booklet and application form. Discussion around residents contacting roads team officers directly for issues on the road network and contact numbers provided via the booklet and also email.
- Discussion with community around requirement for competent operators as assessed by landowners and based on information provided on the application form. Community have found difficulties with conditional registration on farm vehicles and IRC are investigating options around this with TMR.

## ROADS TRACKER

- A demonstration of the new Roads Tracker community portal/hub was provided, which will show the last 10 years of maintenance works completed on the IRC road network, including capital resheeting projects. The portal/hub will be officially launched in early April.

## GENERAL BUSINESS

- Discussion around Lotus Creek Road and why this road isn't sealed. Broader expansion on general review of IRC plans for sealing roads across the network. Local factors to be considered and intervention levels monitored. Traffic counters to be installed to capture seasonal activities and usual activities for consideration of sealed works in the future.
- Discussion around gravel resheeting costs and local gravel review and specifications being completed by council. If community providing gravel for roads, will those savings be utilised in the area they are provided? Not at this stage it will all be consolidated into the pie of money for redistribution.
- For noted Hotspots – can these be discussed with community groups for specific input such as flooded areas on roads. Site specific inspections can be completed.
- Discussion around Special Rates consideration as discussed at Group 2 meeting for community for local road upgrades.
- Discussion around future road upgrades do require Council to fund depreciation costs in the future which could impact rates costs (noting for consideration only).
- Is there a way to make the "pie" bigger? Can we lobby the State/Federal for more money as in other LGA's such as Richmond. Discussion around the current advocacy that IRC is pushing for which has assisted with additional funds for May Downs Road for example and IRC are constantly discussing opportunities with TMR for additional works in the region. **ACTION: Request for TMR District Director to attend next community meeting.**
- Discussion around renewables and the impact to the community and the contributions made as a part of these activities. Some of these are out of IRC control with the State assessing and approving development applications.
- Discussion around what power LGAs have in State Government development application assessments. IRC is consulted, and the Engineering Department provides strong advocacy on impact assessments and upgrade works as part of the consultation.

- Discussion around an all weather road between old highway and the new road for future consideration by council.
- **ACTION: Community requested new signage on the Marl/Sar Road for “dust your rims” around the Lotus Creek Bridge area, “slow down” signage near Bedrock property (bus stop area). Follow up with TMR.**
- **ACTION: IRC to follow up with TMR regarding overhanging trees and decreased visibility around Funnel Creek and Lotus Creek.**
- Discussion around vegetation control around the Group 5 area. Council acknowledged contractor works within 4-6 weeks for vegetation clearing. Further discussion around potential dozer clearing and burnoff for improved vegetation clearing but not noted actions other than TMR notification. If community completing any clearing works on property – Natural Resources Co-ordinator can assist with Cultural Heritage clearance/awareness of required notifications.
- Council acknowledged following up regarding School signs around May Downs and Clark Creek area.
- NVHR permit discussions around current mapping changes. This affects mainly the Nebo saleyards area which heavily impacts residents from Group 5. Extensive discussion around the impacts to businesses and farmers to the noted changes to the nominated roads and their intense disagreement to the proposed changes. Community requested investigations into train cameras for notification, turning lanes for improved safety and also noted that the Junction turn off was a dangerous intersection. Can council advocate for renewable projects to upgrade in conjunction with TMR in the future.
- Discussion around flood monitoring cameras and priority listing of future sites. Discussion around the current vandalism that has occurred to some sites.
- Request for feedback from community on what these engagement sessions will look like moving forward for example face to face, teams, later in the day, direct contact with roads team? **ACTION: Community to provide feedback on type of engagement in the future.**

Thank you for your time – meeting closed at 12.30 pm.

# MINUTES



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Group #	Action/Note	Responsible
5	<b>ACTION: Request for TMR District Director to attend next community meeting.</b>	IRC
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5	<b>ACTION: IRC to follow up with TMR regarding overhanging trees and decreased visibility around Funnel Creek and Lotus Creek.</b>	IRC

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