

Open Letter to Melissa Horne, MP

The Hon. Melissa Horne MP
Minister for Roads and Road Safety

Dear Minister

Council is calling on the Victorian Government to urgently address the deteriorating condition of several state managed roads within the Shire. Over the past two years, Council has formally written to you on the following occasions raising serious concerns about road safety and maintenance.

- 25 June 2024
- 20 March 2024
- 25 July 2025
- 3 September 2025

Several key state managed roads continue to pose safety risks to the community, with road defects remaining unrepaired despite being reported. These include defects on the following roads:

- Mansfield-Whitfield Road
- High Street, Mansfield
- Midland Highway
- Maroondah Highway
- Mansfield-Woods Point Road

Community members have reported dangerous driving behaviours, such as swerving to avoid potholes and other hazards, which are directly linked to the poor condition of these roads. The condition of these roads is not just inconvenient, it's dangerous and is putting the lives of our drivers and pedestrians at risk.

The lack of response from the Department of Transport is deeply concerning. We've made repeated attempts to engage constructively with the Department, but our community's concerns continue to be ignored.

Community safety is our highest priority. Council is doing its part to maintain our local roads, but we need the State Government to listen to the concerns being raised by our community.

Council is urging the Department of Transport to review its current road maintenance model, which is failing to address defects in a timely manner. The current approach allows road conditions to deteriorate to the point where they encourage unsafe driving and compromise public safety.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Steve Rabie', with a large, stylized flourish underneath.

Cr Steve Rabie
Mayor