Inquiry into the implications of severe weather events on the national regional, rural, and remote road network Submission 3

Firstly, the Councils are not capable of fixing the damaged roads themselves, they do not have the man power or the money and the ratepayers cannot afford more hikes in the rates at the present.

I live in apart from some localised flooding, we do not flood but our roads suffer extreme damage when it rains and even when it doesn't rain, since the start of the build of the new Windsor bridge, extra truck traffic comes through our area, plus Spinks Road is the main road in and out of the town, in fact there is no other road.

Our roads in the past have been resurfaced, but in no time the pot holes appear, that tells me the job is not done properly, during these last bouts of weather the roads are in an atrocious state, my car has had to be repaired and I have had to buy two new tyres due to a blow out on Spinks Road, due to hitting a pot hole and I am not a frequent driver. Culverts need to be maintained and regularly cleaned out, the new Windsor Bridge has not done any improvement in the traffic and the truck traffic appears to have increased, the by pass should have been built for all to benefit and with all the on going problems that appear to happen to the bridge it may well have been the cheaper option, but due to the bull headedness of some politicians for what ever reason we were lumbered with a problem instead of a fix.

With the extra volume of traffic the state and the federal governments need to re classify the roads when a road is the only entry and exit to a town it is no longer a council road no longer being used only by the residents and should be reclassified, putting a shovel of gravel in a hole does not fix the problem nor does it stop the bumps the car and the driver feels when transversing those roads, injuries to the neck and back are happening more and more frequently and at one stage a relative whilst driving lost his vision after hitting a pothole, fortunately he had a passenger who was able to steer the car to the side of the road and take over the driving, and also fortunately his vision did return.

As you well know, the Hawkesbury is an area that does not have much state representation, our Federal Member does her best but state matters seem to go into the eather unless there is a camera handy, that is my opinion and has been for many, many terms of government, we are a very large area but in many cases neglected, sometimes a lot of talk but no action seems to be the norm.

If I have done this wrong please let me know

