



Department of Transport and Planning

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www.transport.vic.gov.au

Ref: LEXD 12401

Coroners Registrar
Coroners Court of Victoria
65 Kavanagh Street
SOUTHBANK VIC 3000
cpuresponses@coronerscourt.vic.gov.au

Dear Registrar

FINDINGS INTO THE DEATH OF FRANK CECIL BAKER – COR 2023 002344

I write in response to the Finding made by Deputy State Coroner Spanos on 20 February 2025 into the death of Mr Frank Cecil Baker who was involved in a motor vehicle incident on the Bellarine Highway in Wallington on 3 May 2023. The Department of Transport and Planning (DTP) wishes to take this opportunity to express condolences to the family and friends of Mr Baker for their loss.

I note that Deputy State Coroner Spanos has made the following recommendations in her finding:

1. In the interest of public safety, to prevent further death and injuries, I recommend that the Secretary Department of Transport and Planning immediately prioritise the resurfacing of the westbound lanes of Bellarine Highway in Wallington (between Curlewis Road and Fenwick Street), Victoria.
2. If not already undertaken, the resurfacing of this section of the Bellarine Highway should be completed before the rains of winter 2025, to avoid another prolonged period of hazardous road conditions along this section of the road, in particular in the wet.

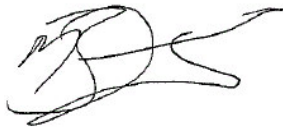
Resurfacing of the westbound lanes of Bellarine Highway in Wallington (between Curlewis Road and Fenwick Street), Victoria

DTP is aiming to undertake resurfacing works on this section of the road in April and May 2025. The project comprises of approximately 1000 lineal metres of pavement resurfacing with asphalt, and a further 1800 lineal metres of surface retexturing to improve the road texture. The asphalt is anticipated to be completed in late

March/April, with the retexturing then to be completed by mid-May when temperatures are more conducive to these types of works.

Should you require further information, Mr Bradley Pryor, Associate Director Operations () would be pleased to assist.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'MB', with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Michael Bailey

Executive Director Barwon South West & Grampians

Date: 17/03/2025