

Community Update – Clarence Way roadworks between Urbenville and Woodenbong

Council has been undertaking a major upgrade of the Clarence Way for the full length between the local government boundary near Urbenville through to Woodenbong since mid 2021.

The project was made possible by \$3 million of funding from the NSW Government and \$2million of funding from the Australian Government, with Council contributing up to \$2 million of its own funding to allow the full length to be completed.

Kyogle Council Mayor Cr Kylie Thomas said construction works were paused in December 2021 when the project was nearing completion, due to signs of premature pavement failure.

“Council has since engaged independent consultants to undertake sampling and testing of the material supplied for the project, with a report on the final results provided to Council this month. The report shows that the material supplied across the segments showing signs of premature failure, does not conform to the required specifications.” Cr Thomas said.

Council has prepared a detailed estimate of the cost of the repair works based on the test results obtained, involving stabilisation of the existing pavement materials, and an overlay of compliant pavement material from an alternate source of quarry materials. This repair methodology will avoid the excessive time delays and costs associated with removal and full replacement of the unsuitable material, whilst still achieving the required pavement strength and longevity.

When Council resolves to accept Tenders under the Contract for the supply of quarry products, the Tenderers are required to hold a suitable level of Public and Product Liability Insurance coverage, as protection against this kind of event. As such, Council is seeking appropriate compensation for the cost of repairing the road throughout these affected segments.

Kyogle Council Mayor Cr Kylie Thomas said the situation is unfortunate.

“Despite all the hard work and best efforts of the Council staff and contractors involved in the project, the material supplied did not meet the required specifications, and this has led to premature failures throughout the works,” Cr Thomas said.

“Councillors and Council staff are working together to ensure that the project can be completed as originally planned, and as soon as possible. In the meantime, Council staff will continue to monitor the road and undertake any works needed to ensure continuity of service. I also take this opportunity to thank the community for their patience, and apologise for the extended delays in completing the project and any inconvenience caused.” Cr Thomas said.

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