



MEDIA RELEASE

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RACV report confirms network is broken

Regional Cities Victoria (RCV) says RACV's latest road report adds to mounting evidence that Victoria needs to stop patching its deteriorating regional roads and start properly rebuilding them.

RACV's *My Country Road 2026* survey received more than 10,000 requests for improvements, with 71 per cent identifying road surfaces and potholes as the major concern and 73 per cent calling for resurfacing.

RCV Chair Cr Ben Blain said the findings closely reflected what regional councils had been telling the State Government.

"RACV, the Auditor-General, councils and now thousands of motorists are all telling us the same thing – our regional road network is broken," Cr Blain said.

"Only weeks ago, RCV gave the Premier our priority roads for urgent attention. RACV motorists have independently identified some of those same roads among the worst in Victoria.

"The Western Highway, Princes Highway, Loddon Valley Highway and Murray Valley Highway are all on our list and feature prominently in RACV's findings."

RACV ranked Princes Highway West between Colac and Camperdown first statewide, Loddon Valley Highway Bendigo–Kerang third, Western Highway Ballarat–Trawalla eighth and Murray Valley Highway Wodonga–Tallangatta ninth.

Cr Blain said the Government's additional \$352 million for maintenance in 2026-27 should now translate into crews being deployed quickly to regional priorities.

"More maintenance funding is needed, but RACV's message is pretty clear: people want roads resurfaced, not another patch and another reduced speed sign," Cr Blain said.

"RCV is calling for an additional \$2 billion over four years because this problem wasn't created in one year and it won't be fixed in one maintenance season.

"The evidence is overwhelming. RCV is calling on all parties to commit to fixing our regional roads properly."

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