

MERRICKS BEACH RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION INC.

Registration no. A0021120U

mbra.com.au

PO Box 66 Balnarring. 3926

4 February 2024

Your ref: CMIN-1-23-6304

The Hon Melissa Horne MP Minister for Roads and Road Safety 121 Exhibition St Melbourne, VIC 3000

Dear Minister

Frankston - Flinders Road speed limit

I refer to your letter of 12 December 2023 to Mr Paul Mercurio MP, member for Hastings.

I write on behalf of Merricks Beach residents and others concerned with road safety to respectfully request that, as a matter of urgency, you direct the Department of Transport and Planning to review the posted speed limit of the Frankston-Flinders Rd between Balnarring and Merricks.

Our association – the membership of which comprises over 70% of the residents of Merricks Beach - has been seeking to have the current 100 kph default posted speed limit reduced to 80 kph for many years. Your letter of 12 December was sent in reply to Mr Mercurio's letter passing on our concerns and requesting this change. In your letter, when declining to make any change, you referenced the Victorian Speed Zoning Technical Guidelines.

The MBRA subsequently sought independent advice to understand better why your Department may have determined that 100 kph is the appropriate speed limit, given our own collective experience of the poor safety record of this section of road.

The advice provided to us is that, in fact, the speed limit in this section of road does **not** align with the Guidelines, and recommends that 80 kph is the appropriate speed limit given the medium-high risk of crashes. Furthermore, the crash history of this road confirms residents' observations that the current speed limit is unsafe.

A copy of this report is attached.

Considering the high incidence of crashes along this section of road (and, in that regard, I note that the 2-vehicle crash depicted in figure 7 of the report occurred only in mid 2023, and is not included in the accident data extracted in table 3), we urge you to direct your Department to undertake a review of the posted speed limit as a matter of urgency, as lives are at risk. We also respectfully request a copy of the Department's assessment for our review once it is complete.

Yours sincerely

Peter Cash President

president@mbra.com.au

cc Mr Paul Mercurio MP, Member for Hastings

Councillor Simon Brooks, Mayor, Mornington Peninsula Shire

Councillor David Gill, Red Hill Ward, Mornington Peninsula Shire