



Press Release

Bourke Shire Council welcomes announcement of an additional \$4.6 million Dollars for the Wanaaring Road Reconstruction and Sealing Works

Bourke Shire Council has welcomed the announcement by the Member for Barwon Kevin Humphries MP that the Bourke to Wanaaring Road being Main Road 405 has been allocated a further grant of \$4.6 million from Fixing Country Roads which will see the portion of the Road from Goonery to Barrakee reconstructed and sealed.

Mayor of Bourke Shire Councillor Barry Hollman said that it was great news and the people of Wanaaring who have waited decades for their road to be sealed are seeing their dream slowly becoming a reality.

Manager of Roads for Bourke Shire Council Mark Gordon said that Council has had numerous positive comments from road users who have seen a vast improvement in the road and this has resulted in dramatically reduced travelling time.

Once the recently funded works are completed it will mean approximately 50% of the road will be sealed which is a great start.

Mr Gordon added all the work had been undertaken by Council staff with the assistance of local contractors as needed. He added that the project was a large undertaking for Council but was always confident that the Council staff had the capacity to undertake the project.

Mr Gordon said that Bourke Shire Council Road Construction team had a reputation of being able to produce high quality work and complete the work "on time and on budget"

General Manager of Bourke Shire Ross Earl said that the work to date has been very much appreciated by the residents of the Wanaaring areas and other members of the travelling public. He said that he hoped that funding for the continuation of the works would be forthcoming which may mean that there will be a sealed road the whole way

between Bourke and Wanaaring in the foreseeable future. This would have significant benefits socially and economically not to mention the untapped tourism potential, noting that as little over twelve months ago a sealed road did not seem a possibility.

Mayor Hollman has thanked all involved in the project and also thanked the Member for Barwon Kevin Humphries for his ongoing support and the Minister for Roads the Hon Melinda Pavey MP for making the funding available

Mayor Hollman assured residents of the Wanaaring area that Council would continue to lobby hard for the additional funds required to complete the sealing works.

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Contacts

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