

Menzies Road, Menzies Creek

Special charge scheme landowner
presentation

August 2021



Welcome, I'd first like to start by acknowledging the Traditional Owners of the land on which I record this presentation. I pay my respects to their Elders, past and present.

Thank you for taking the time to listen in on this landowner briefing regarding the Special Charge Scheme to construct **Menzies Road, Menzies Creek**

This briefing has been set up to provide landowners with information regarding the upcoming statutory process to declare the Special Charge Scheme, while also providing details on the project itself.

Overview

- ▶ Federal Government Roads for the Community Initiative
- ▶ What is a Special Charge Scheme?
- ▶ Project Overview
- ▶ Properties included in the Special Charge Scheme
- ▶ Estimated Project Cost
- ▶ Anticipated Time Frames
- ▶ Submissions
- ▶ Anticipated Time Frames - Payment Details
- ▶ Description of Works
- ▶ What to expect in Construction
- ▶ Drop in Session



A number of items will be covered in this presentation. We'll start by recognising the major source of funding for this project, some information about what a Special Charge Scheme is, we'll look at the project history, timeframes and key dates for the statutory process, a description of the works and, of course, what to expect during construction.



Federal Government Roads for the Community Initiative

In 2019 as part of its budgetary process the Federal Government announced a nine year, \$150 million funding plan to Yarra Ranges Council for the construction of unsealed roads in the Dandenong Ranges and surrounds.

This funding program has been named the Roads for the Community Initiative.

At its meeting held on 24 September 2019, Council endorsed a list of unsealed roads proposed for construction utilising the federal funding. Council also directed that the roads listed, with the exception of some that directly abut schools or community facilities, should be constructed by means of Special Charge Schemes.

Council greatly appreciate the substantial Federal Government Funding towards this road construction program and acknowledge the work of the Honourable Tony Smith MP, Federal Member for Casey and Speaker of the House of Representatives for his role in bringing this program to life.

What is a Special Charge Scheme?

- ▶ Landowner contributions can be sought for infrastructure improvement projects such as roads, footpaths and drainage
- ▶ Introduced where the works proposed are to the special benefit of a defined group of properties.



So, what is a special charge scheme?

A Special Charge Scheme is a means where landowner contributions can be sought for infrastructure improvement projects such as roads, footpaths and drainage.

Landowner funded schemes have been in place for many years. In fact, Council records dating back to the 1920s detail the involvement of landowners in many road and other improvement projects, e.g., drainage, footpaths, kerb and channel, etc.

A Special Charge Scheme is generally introduced where the works proposed are to the special benefit of a defined group of properties.

Project Overview

- ▶ Menzies Road, Menzies Creek is included in the priority list
- ▶ Landowners surveyed March 2020
- ▶ Sufficient landowner support received May 2020
- ▶ Detailed design in progress
- ▶ Construction anticipated to commence in March 2022



We'll now run through a little bit of history regarding this project.

Menzies Road, Menzies Creek was included in the list of roads prioritised for construction under the Roads for Community program in 2019

In **12 March 2020** landowners were surveyed to determine their support for a SCS to construct the road.

Sufficient landowner support was received in **22 May 2020** and landowners were advised that the project would proceed to design stage

Detailed design work is on the way and the project is ready to proceed to the Statutory Phase. Subject to successful completion of the Special Charge Scheme Statutory Process, the works will then be tendered for construction.

Construction is anticipated for **Early 2022**

Properties Included in the Special Charge Scheme



This map shows the extent of the scheme with **61** Properties involved highlighted in red. The extent of works is for **1070m** of road to be constructed.

Community consultation Estimated Project Cost

- ▶ Community review of the functional layout plan
- ▶ Current Estimated Project Cost (based on functional layout plan) \$1,332,025 for approximately 1070 metres of road.
- ▶ Council contribution via Federal Government \$901,525 (68%) landowner contribution \$430,500 (32%)
- ▶ Landowner contributions are based on a cost of \$7,000 per standard property
- ▶ Landowner contributions have been heavily subsidised utilising Federal Government Funding via the Roads for the Community Program



A functional layout plan has been prepared for the project which is available online for community review and feedback.

Based on these plans and as part of the Statutory Process landowners are provided a cost estimate of the works.

*The current Estimated Scheme Cost (based on the functional layout plan) is **\$1,332,025** for approximately **1070** meters of road.

*Council's contribution, via the Federal Government, is **\$901,525** or **68%** of the project cost. The landowner contribution is at **\$430,500** or **32%** of the project cost.

*Landowner contributions are based on a cost of \$7,000 per standard property.

A standard property is a residential property not capable of intensive development i.e. subdivision, and that gains primary (vehicular) access from the roads being constructed.

Standard properties that share a boundary with the roads being constructed and

gain primary (vehicular) access from another road will normally pay a half charge, or \$3,500.

*Landowner contributions have been heavily subsidised utilising Federal Government Funding via the Roads for the Community Program. Without the Federal Government Funding Subsidy Standard Properties would be up for a charge **in excess of \$15,000**

Please be advised that we understand there are some in the community that are under financial pressure as a result of the current coronavirus crisis. For those that may be experiencing financial hardship, there will be special provision to allow them to pay their contribution towards the project over an extended period of time that meets their circumstances.

Anticipated Time Frames

• Online Landowner briefing & consultation	Early August
• Report to Council - Intention to Levy	24 August 2021
• Notice to landowners - Intention to Levy	25 August 2021
• Public Notice Local Newspapers on and Council's Web Site	Week Commencing 30 August 2021
• Date Submissions to Council close	29 September 2021
• Report to Council - Declaration of Scheme	26 October 2021
• Notice to landowners - Declaration of Scheme	27 October 2021
• Submissions close to Victorian Civil and Administrative Tribunal (VCAT)	29 November 2021
• Tender Process	December 2021 - February 2022
• Works Commence	March 2022



Note: If a submission to VCAT is made the project will be placed on hold until a hearing is arranged and a written decision is made by VCAT. This may take up to 12 months.



We will now run through some key dates and timeframes to undertake the special charge scheme statutory process and proceed to construction.

*This online landowner briefing will be available from early **August** and the Project Engineer will be available to discuss your questions – more details regarding this consultation will be included in a later slide.

*Council will consider a report recommending that landowners be advised of Councils intent to Levy a Special Charge for the construction of **Menzies Road, Menzies Creek** at its meeting dated **24 August 2021**

*Following this meeting, a notice to landowners advising of the Intention to Levy a Special Charge will be mailed the very next day on **25 August 2021**

*A Public Notice will be published in The Mail Local Newspapers & on Council's Internet Web Site on the week commencing **30 August 2021**

*Written Submissions to the SCS (which will be discussed more shortly) can then be made to Council. The submission period closes on **29 September 2021**

*Council will consider any submissions made at the meeting to be held on **26 October 2021**. At this meeting Council will decide to either declare or abandon the scheme.

*Should Council declare the special charge scheme, a notice to landowners

advising of the Declaration of the Scheme, will be mailed to landowners on the **27 October 2021**

*Following the declaration of the Scheme, landowners will have the opportunity to make submissions to the Victorian Civil and Administrative Tribunal (VCAT). Submission to VCAT will close on the **29 November 2021**

*The tender process for the construction works would begin between **December 2021 – February 2022** subject to scheme being declared by Council of course.

*If no submissions are made to VCAT works could commence by **March 2022**

*Please note, if a submission to VCAT is made the project will be placed on hold until a hearing is arranged and a written decision is made by VCAT. This may take up to 12 months

Submissions

- ▶ Landowners advised of Council intent to levy a special charge
- ▶ Public notice advising of Councils' intention to levy a special charge
- ▶ Public Submissions open to Council
- ▶ Council will decide to either Declare or Abandon the Scheme
- ▶ 30 day period to Appeal to VCAT



I will now run through some information regarding the submission process.

As mentioned earlier, after community consultation and drop-in sessions, the Notice of Intention is sent to residents. Soon after, a Public Notice advising of Council's Intent to Levy a Special Charge for the road construction project is published on Council's Website and in the Mail Newspaper.

Public submissions regarding the proposed Special Charge Scheme can then be made.

Submissions may be made in support or in opposition to the Scheme. Persons making a submission to the Scheme will be offered the opportunity of a consultation meeting with their Councillor and/or Council Officers to discuss their submission if they wish to do so.

Council will consider any public submissions made at its meeting dated **26 October 2021**. At this meeting landowners will have the opportunity to talk to their submission to Council. Council will also decide at this meeting to either Declare or Abandon the Scheme.

If Council declares the special charge scheme, a Declaration of Scheme Notice will be sent to landowners the next day. If the Scheme is Declared by Council, property owners

will have a 30 day period to appeal to VCAT.

If a submission is made to VCAT the project will be delayed until VCAT can consider the matter and deliver a written decision – this may take up to 12 months

Anticipated Time Frames - Payment Details

- ▶ The special charge is paid with your annual rates
- ▶ Repayments over 10 years (including a financing cost, currently around 3%)

If you pay your rates:

- ▶ Once a year - due on 15 February 2023
- ▶ By instalments - payments commence 30 September 2022
- ▶ By Direct Debit - payments commence on the 1st payment date after 30 June 2022

OR

- ▶ Lump Sum payment of entire Special Charge - due 15 February 2023 (financing cost does not apply to lump sum payment)



Repayment of the Special Charge can be spread over ten years (which would include a 3% financing cost). The Financing Cost is based on current interest rates set when Council secures its' borrowings

Scheme payments are made at the same time that you pay your annual rates.

If you pay your rates once a year – 1st annual payment due on 15 February 2023.

If you pay your rates by instalments - payments commence 30 September 2022.

If you pay your rates by Direct Debit – payments commence on the 1st payment date after 30 June 2022.

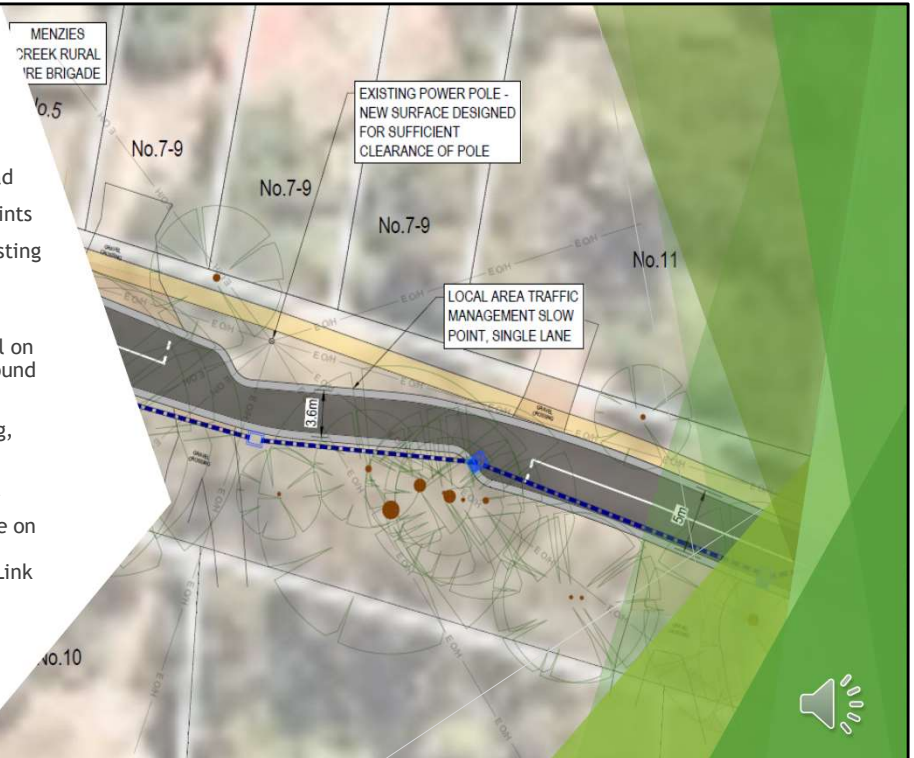
OR

Lump Sum payment of entire Special Charge - due 15 February 2023 (financing cost does not apply to lump sum payment)

I will now pass onto our Project Engineer **Keat Cheong** to explain the description of works.

Description of Works

- ▶ 5m wide trafficable road width road
- ▶ Three 3.5m localised narrowing points
- ▶ Road width generally following existing road formation
- ▶ Road crowned in the middle
- ▶ Concrete rollover kerb and channel on both side with associated underground drainage
- ▶ Increased road height from existing, approximately 200mm
- ▶ Driveway crossovers reinstatement
- ▶ Copies of the layout plans available on Council's website and viewing (on Screen) at the Upwey Community Link



Thanks Jess.

Menzies Road has been design to be an asphalt pavement with rollover kerb on either side of the road. The road width will generally have a 5 metre trafficable width with three points of localised narrowing to 3.5m width measured from invert of kerb to invert of kerb. A 5 metre width will allow for two vehicles to pass, while a 3.5m width allows for one vehicle. These localised narrowing locations have been designed as a local area traffic management treatment.

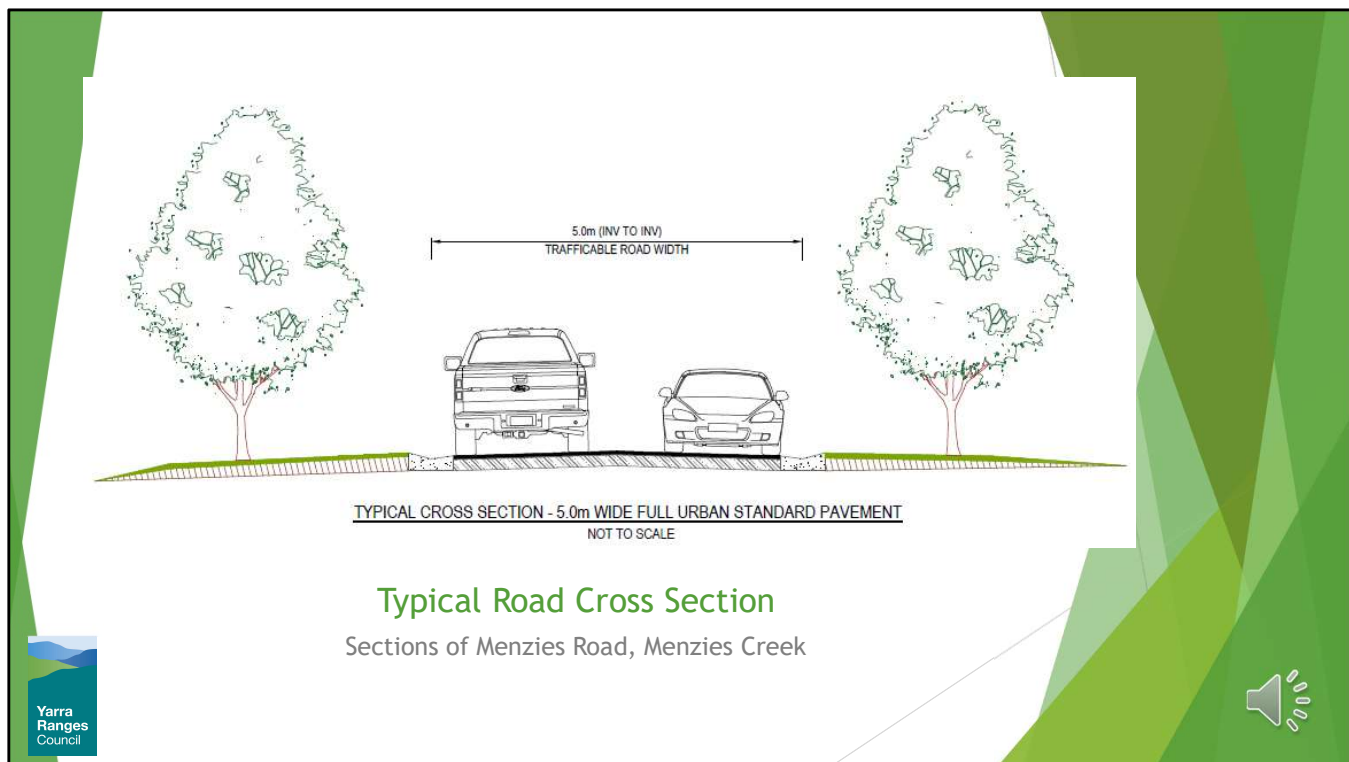
The road width will generally follow the existing road formation and look to minimise the removal of existing vegetation. The road is crowned in the middle, allowing stormwater to sheet to either side of the road. From here, it will be collected in the rollover kerb and channel before entering drainage pits and underground drainage and connected to Belgrave-Gembrook Road and Menzies Creek.

The constructed surface will generally be higher, approximately 200mm than existing surface. Where levels of the road have been altered, driveways will be reinstated as best as possible to avoid scraping of vehicles accessing the property. Disturbed sections of private driveways will be reinstated to the same standard as they existed prior to the works with use of the same surface material.

Please note: Driveway reinstatement may be difficult in steep conditions, where achieving reinstatement is dependant upon the quality of the original driveway design and construction.

Any improvements of driveways from the edge of the road to the adjacent property is a landowner responsibility. Should you wish to have your driveway upgraded at the time of works, the contractor may be able to do this for you at your cost. You are welcome to seek a quotation from the contractor at the time of project commencement for improvement to your driveway as a private arrangement.

Copies of the layout plans can be accessed via the project web page or for viewing (on Screen) at Council's **Upwey Community Link**



Here is a picture Menzies Road's cross section with asphalt pavement and rollover kerb on either side.

From the picture you can see the trafficable road width of 5.0 metres, invert of kerb to invert of kerb.

You can also see the road crown showing an approximate 3% grade in the middle allowing stormwater to sheet to either side of the road and be collected in the kerb and channel before entering drainage pits and underground drainage.



Similar type project: Anderson Road, Tecoma
5m trafficable width with rollover kerb



To get an idea of what your road may look like after construction, a similar project in the nearby area is **Anderson Road, Tecoma**

This project was constructed in the first year of the Roads for Community Program with similar 5m wide road cross section and kerb and channel profiles.



Similar type project: Grandview Grove, Selby
3.5m trafficable width with rollover kerb



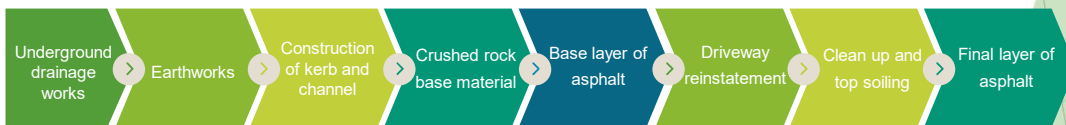
Another project, in the nearby area is **Grandview Grove, Selby.**

This project was constructed in the first year of the Roads for Community Program with a 3.5m similar road cross section and kerb and channel profiles. This kerb profile will be used for the localised narrowing sections.

Feel free to drive by and have a look.

What to expect during Construction

- ▶ Access during construction times, road closed to through traffic
- ▶ Work times between weekdays 7:30am to 4:30pm
- ▶ Weekly waste collection services will be arranged earlier (around 6am)
- ▶ Contractor to notify residents of impacts to property access and delays
- ▶ Council will be undertaking almost daily inspections
- ▶ Order of works:



Here is a flow chart of what to expect during construction.

Works are classified as major construction so there will be disruptions. There may be delays for traffic movement and vehicle access restrictions to properties for some of the works, particularly drainage, concrete kerb and asphalt works.

The road will be closed to through traffic but access for residents will still be available.

Work times are generally between 7:30am to 4:30pm (however, this can vary). Waste collection services will continue with bin pick up altered to an earlier pick up time, around 6am – so make sure to pop your bins out the night before.

The Contractor will notify you of any impacts to your property access and will be available to discuss how these impacts might affect you. A Council supervisor will be undertaking inspections of the works almost daily. For safety keep clear of construction areas and drive slowly through the works area obeying the contractors instructions

Construction activities generally occur in the following order:

- *Underground drainage works where trenching and pipe laying works will occur beside roads, across the road
- *Earthworks to define the road formation
- *Installation of sub surface agricultural drains to capture groundwater seepage
- *Construction of kerb & channel where determined. Please note, at this time you will not have vehicular access to your property whilst the concrete cures. This takes approximately 5 days. Generally works will occur on one side of the road at a time, which may allow you to park on the opposite side of the road or in your opposite neighbours property, returning the favour when their side is done
- *Crushed rock base material for the road pavement
- *Base layer asphalt of the road
- *Driveway reinstatement
- *Clean up and top soiling of disturbed areas. Please avoid driving and parking on these areas once topsoil is laid.
- *The final layer of asphalt will be laid 12 months after the completion of the project to allow any pavement defects that may occur to be identified and repaired.

We thank you for your understanding and patience during works.

Consultation

Council officers are available to answer your questions. We can arrange a consultation via:



Telephone: 1300 368 333



Email: mail@yarraranges.vic.gov.au



Onsite Meeting



Local Community Link



Online Zoom Meeting



View plans on Yarra Ranges website:

<https://yarraranges.vic.gov.au/MenziesRoad>



Finally, if you have any queries regarding the Special Charge Scheme process, the layout plans or the project in general, Council officers including the myself, **Keat Cheong - Project Engineer** are available to provide advice or answers.

We are more than happy to assist over the telephone, arrange an onsite meeting, book a time to meet up at a local Community Link or organize an online Zoom meeting.

Please register your interest in a consultation via email or by calling and asking to speak with the Roads for Community Team.

Please note, onsite or Community Link meetings are subject to Covid-19 restrictions.

To download the layout plans or to find out more information on this project by going to Council's website in the Development tab and Council's project & works and looking up Menzies Road.

This concludes the presentation. On behalf of the team, thank you for your attendance and interest in the project.