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Ms Rebecca White MP
Labor Member for Lyons

22 AUG 2024

Email: laura.ross@parliament.tas.gov.au

Dear Ms White

Thank you for your question asked on 30 July 2024 in Parliament, on behalf of the Meander Valley Council:

"The Meander Valley Council has been working with State Growth on a design to improve the safety of the intersection of Bartley Street and Meander Valley Road at Hadspen. It has been agreed that a roundabout would need to be built. However, to date, no funding has been allocated by the state government."

This section of road is quite busy, with a school bus route, bus stop and a new subdivision. A 250-house subdivision has been approved by the council, and the developer has commenced work on the first stage. However, approximately 200 new homes will be held up until the intersection is improved. In the middle of a housing crisis, why is the state government not prioritising the improvement of this intersection and working with the council to allocate the necessary funding to ensure that more 200 homes can be built?"

The Tasmanian Government granted the Meander Valley Council \$500,000 for use in the development of new connections between Hadspen and Meander Valley Road based on a 2018 election commitment. I understand that this funding was used to develop designs for the proposed roundabout at Meander Valley Road and Bartley Street.

I have been advised by the Department of State Growth that it has approved the proposed roundabout design and is supportive of it continuing. I understand that the Meander Valley Council and the developers of a nearby subdivision now simply need to apply for a works permit when they are ready to begin construction. It is a matter for the developers to undertake and fund all further design and construction work as is routinely the case when the need for infrastructure upgrades is directly attributable to new developments.

The Department of State Growth's Traffic Impact Assessment Guidelines on its website states clearly that the cost of infrastructure works required for developments are to be funded by the developer: *"It should be noted that the cost of designing and constructing road infrastructure works required as a result of the proposed development will need to be funded by the developer."*

This guidance can be found on page 3, dot point 3 under Traffic Capacity Analysis at https://www.transport.tas.gov.au/__data/assets/pdf_file/0005/108491/TIA_Guidelines_-_PDF_Version.PDF

This long-accepted attribution of road infrastructure costs is consistent with local government policies requiring funding of such works by the private developer.

Thank you for raising these matters in Parliament, I trust this information is helpful.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Michael Ferguson". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Michael Ferguson MP
Deputy Premier
Minister for Infrastructure