



The Hon Kristy McBain MP

Minister for Regional Development, Local Government and Territories
Member for Eden-Monaro

Ref: MC22-010048

Ms Sue Murray
President
Braidwood Community Association
president@braidwoodcommunity.org.au

Dear Ms Murray *Sue,*

Thank you for your letter of 30 October 2022 on behalf of the Braidwood Community Association regarding the deteriorating state of roads, particularly in the Queanbeyan - Palerang Regional Council Area. I apologise for the delay in responding.

I note your concerns about the difficult situation our region is facing to maintain safe and reliable road networks in the face of continued extreme weather events, particularly the increased number of potholes on your local roads.

On 1 December 2022 the House of Representatives Standing Committee on Regional Development, Infrastructure and Transport launched an inquiry into the implications of severe weather events on the national regional, rural, and remote road network. The inquiry will look at road engineering and construction standards to strengthen road resiliency against natural disasters, including the critical role of climate change trends and data to inform infrastructure standards. The Committee is seeking to understand how road planning and construction may be improved to enhance road climate resiliency and support communities.

The Committee is seeking written submissions, from organisations and individuals, providing recommendations relating to any or all of the inquiry terms of reference by 28 February 2023. I encourage you to visit the website www.aph.gov.au/rdit and make a submission to the inquiry.

Through the Infrastructure Investment Program, the Australian Government is providing more than \$18.9 billion over 10 years from 2022-23 towards major infrastructure projects in New South Wales (NSW). Although the Government provides significant funding to build transport infrastructure in NSW, the responsibility for identifying and delivering projects including the maintenance of roads falls primarily with the NSW Government and/or local councils.

I would encourage you to engage with the NSW Government through the NSW Minister for Regional Transport and Roads, the Hon Sam Farraway MLC, who is contactable via www.parliament.nsw.gov.au/members/pages/ministers.aspx.

As you indicated, Roads to Recovery and Local Roads and Community Infrastructure Program funding remains available from the Australian Government to councils for the repair of their roads.

I intend to work within and between all levels of government to ensure safe and reliable regional transport, and continued support for regional communities across NSW and Australia.

Unfortunately, due to my parliamentary commitments, I am unable to meet with you at this time, however I do intend to visit the Braidwood community in coming months and would be happy to meet with you then.

Thank you for taking the time to write to me on this matter and I hope this information is of assistance.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Kristy McBain', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Kristy McBain MP

23/1 /2022