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Media Release



Wheatbelt roads on the risky radar

RAC today released the results from the 2014 Risky Roads campaign which has identified the community's views on the State's most dangerous regional roads.

The Great Eastern Highway, has been identified as a seriously neglected stretch of road, in need of overtaking lanes and improved roadside shoulders.

Respondents also cited Great Northern Highway around Bindi-Bindi and Great Southern Highway between The Lakes and York as needing additional overtaking facilities and realignment works to remove tight bends.

Toodyay Road between Red Hill and Toodyay was also a key concern of road users.

RAC General Manager Corporate Affairs, Will Golsby, said the State-wide survey across metropolitan and regional WA had received more than 5,000 nominations.

"The 2014 Risky Roads results highlight the urgent need for the State Government's Mid-Year Review to deliver an increase in road funding across the State," Mr Golsby said.

"This funding is urgent because tragically the road fatality toll is already 20 deaths more than this time last year, and as of today more than 53 per cent of fatalities have occurred in regional WA.

"WA's regional road network is also under pressure with a cap being placed on the level of road funding provided to local government, and more recently a 15 per cent per year reduction in funding from the road maintenance budget over the next three years.

"This is on top of the huge backlog in road maintenance which was identified in 2009 by the Auditor General, and estimated to be \$800 million.

"There is over 187,000 kilometres of road in Western Australia and no one knows it better than the people who drive, ride, cycle or walk on it every day.

"The Risky Road campaign empowers community members to voice their concerns about dangerous roads and intersections, so we can work together with relevant authorities to get them fixed and ultimately try to save lives."

For a copy of the 2014 regional Risky Roads campaign results visit www.rac.com.au/riskyroads

To review the most frequently nominated regional roads and intersections please see next page.

Wheatbelt Regional Results -

Shire of Bruce Rock:

Rank	Road/intersection	Issue	Member suggestions
1	Bruce Rock-Merredin Road, Merredin	Poor road quality and width	Install overtaking lanes, increase road and shoulder width

Shire of Gingin:

Rank	Road/intersection	Issue	Member suggestions
1	Indian Ocean Drive, Lancelin	Lack of overtaking opportunities	Install passing lanes

Shire of Merredin:

Rank	Road/intersection	Issue	Member suggestions
1	Bruce Rock-Merredin Road, Merredin	Poor road quality and width	Install overtaking lanes, increase road and shoulder width

Shire of Moora:

Rank	Road/intersection	Issue	Member suggestions
1	Great Northern Highway, Bindi-Bindi	Poor road quality and width	Reconstruction of road and reduce corners

Shire of Northam:

Rank	Road/intersection	Issue	Member suggestions
1	Great Eastern Highway, The Lakes to Northam	Lack of passing opportunities	Road duplication
2	Coates Road x Great Eastern Highway, Wundowie	Inadequate crossing or turning opportunities, excessive speed	Installation median refuge and street lighting
3	West Talbot Road x Yarra Road, Woottanting	Regulatory Give Way sign is too close to intersecting road.	Replace Give Way sign with Stop sign. Install intersection warning signs in advance to intersection

Shire of Toodyay:

Rank	Road/intersection	Issue	Member suggestions
1	Toodyay Road, Red Hill to Toodyay	Increased traffic, poor road condition and lack of overtaking opportunities	Road duplication and edge barrier treatments

Shire of Yilgarn:

Rank	Road/intersection	Issue	Member suggestions
1	Great Eastern Highway. Kalgoorlie to Southern Cross	Lack of passing opportunities	Install additional passing lanes

Shire of York:

Rank	Road/intersection	Issue	Member suggestions
1	Great Southern Highway, Lakes to York	Lack of passing opportunities, increased heavy vehicle traffic and roadside hazards	Speed reductions, realignment of road to remove curves, additional passing lanes and clearing of road shoulders

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