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TWEED SHIRE COUNCIL  
FILE No. ROAD CLASSIFICATION REVIEW PANEL  
JCC No.  
30 JUN 2009  
ASSIGNED TO Rayner, M  
HARD COPY  IMAGE

ROAD CLASSIFICATION REVIEW PANEL



Joan Van Lieshout  
Tweed Shire Council  
PO Box 816  
MURWILLUMBAH 2484

5 June 2009

Dear Van Lieshout

The Government has announced that extra funds will be made available to local councils and a number of roads will be reclassified following finalisation of an independent review of the classification of State and Regional Roads in NSW. Implementation of the road classification changes will benefit both road users, councils and the wider community by helping focus available funds on the more economically and socially significant roads throughout the State.

As you may be aware, the Government appointed Panel, which undertook the statewide review, consulted extensively with councils and has recommended that a number of roads throughout NSW be reclassified.

Implementation of the review from 1 July 2009 will result in a net reduction of five kilometres of State Roads and a net reduction in Regional Roads of 230 kilometres.

Roads to be reclassified within your Council area are listed in the attached schedule.

I enclose a copy of the media release announcing the implementation of the review. The Panel's review report will be available on the RTA's website at [www.rta.nsw.gov.au/roadclassificationreview](http://www.rta.nsw.gov.au/roadclassificationreview).

The Government will provide an additional \$10.5 million over three years to support implementation of the reclassifications including transitional safety net arrangements as sought by Local Government. These funds will be in addition to maintaining the current overall level of funding assistance to councils for Regional Roads.

Councils with a net increase in Regional Roads will receive an increase in their Block Grant in 2009/10. Councils with a net reduction from Regional to Local Road status will receive safety net payments to maintain their Block Grant for 2009/10. The safety net payments would then reduce by one third per year over the following three years.

After three years, the extra funding will continue at the rate of \$3.5 million per year, as part of the annual Regional Roads Program, to provide an ongoing benefit to every council in the State.

Timber bridges on declassified roads will remain eligible for assistance on a merit basis under the current Regional Roads Timber Bridge Partnership Program.

Reclassifications involving State Roads will require a transfer of asset management responsibility between RTA and councils, and in some cases will impact on council maintenance contracts. Transfer of management responsibility for existing State Road assets will include joint inspection, detailed inventory identification, and provision of condition data and maintenance history. A guideline to assist this process of asset transfer is available on the RTA's Local Government Relations website.

The RTA's Regional Manager will contact you shortly to discuss implementation arrangements, including detailed handover arrangements for State Roads, for changes to take effect from July 2009.

I look forward to a close association between the RTA and Council during the implementation of the recommended changes. Please direct any enquiries at this stage to the RTA Regional Manager, Northern Region.

Yours sincerely

Roads and Traffic Authority 480 155 255

Michael Bushby

Acting Chief Executive

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## SCHEDULE

### Roads to be Reclassified

#### Tweed Council

<b>Road No</b>	<b>Road Name</b>	<b>From</b>	<b>To</b>	<b>Current Class</b>	<b>Recommended Class</b>	<b>Length (km)</b>
MR541	Terranora Rd	Pacific Hwy Banora Point	Tweed Valley Way near Tumbulgum	Regional	Local	12.2





NSW MINISTER FOR ROADS  
MICHAEL DALEY MP

## **NEWS RELEASE**

### **NSW COUNCILS SET TO RECEIVE MORE ROAD FUNDING**

Friday, 29<sup>th</sup> May 2009

Minister for Roads Michael Daley today said the Rees Government will boost road funding for local councils and reclassify a number of roads around NSW following an independent review of the NSW road network.

Mr Daley said the implementation of the NSW Road Classification Review would ensure roads throughout the state are better managed and funded in the future.

"Local communities change over the years, so it's important to see how roads are being used so that we can better allocate funding and responsibility for them between governments.

"Changes in demographics and travel patterns means some roads have become busier and more important to communities, while some roads have become quieter

"That's why we established this independent panel to ensure the state's most important roads are getting the management and funding they deserve," he said.

The review panel, chaired by former President of the NSW Shires Association and the Australian Local Government Association Mike Montgomery, has worked closely with local councils across NSW since 2003.

"The panel identified which roads should be classified on the State Road network, for which the RTA is responsible, and which should be on the Regional Road network, for which councils receive government assistance," Mr Daley said.

"The Rees Government is committed to a cooperative, balanced and common-sense approach to caring for our roads, which is what this review will achieve," he said.

The Rees Government has accepted the vast majority of the independent panel's recommendations for individual road reclassifications.

In addition, the government has agreed to a new State Road at West Wyalong in Bland Shire and decided that the Pacific Highway between Berowra and Calga, the Old Pacific Highway between Calga and the Kariong Interchange and the Cobb Highway between Ivanhoe and Wilcannia will remain State Roads.

"This review process has been about striking the right balance with local government and working together to deliver better roads for the people of NSW," Mr Daley said.

"The government will provide \$10.5 million over three years and continue working hand-in-hand with local councils to support these changes.

"This is on top of the NSW Government's investment of \$150 million to maintain regional roads and an extra \$60 million over four years to help replace old timber bridges.

"We know how important roads are to connecting towns and communities, as well as attracting investment and job opportunities.

"We've made real progress in improving our road network and we'll keep working with local councils to ensure the good work continues," he said.