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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Media Release

Rutherglen Main Street Safety - Progress at Last?

Congratulations Wendy Lovell MP calling for urgent action on Main Street, Rutherglen.

Since 2016 Councillor Roberta Horne has worked tirelessly advocating for the Main Street to be made much safer.

Councillor Horne's most recent efforts include sending her 876 signed petition calling on the Victorian Minister for Roads and Road Safety to act on delivering road safety works.

Since 2009 several studies have been done. The most recent 2018 study being the "Rutherglen Origin and Destination" report costing almost \$700,000. The study still hasn't been released to the public, despite many requests.

Herb Ellerbock, President of Indigo Community Voice (ICV) said "for too many years this has dragged on. This year we have had the traffic death of a local woman plus a serious truck accident that could have claimed my life and my wife's. It is only a matter of time before more deaths occur."

All 3 levels of government must be blamed for the inaction and delays with buck passing becoming the norm.

Mr Ellerbock said "it's time to act and spend the remaining \$1.3m on essential safety-traffic calming measures. One measure being a further extension of the Main Street 40kms speed limit to slow traffic."

The introduction of the Victorian Local Government Act in 2020 coupled with Indigo Council's policy, has severely restricted elected councillors to speak freely on behalf of their community. Only the Mayor and Council Management are permitted to speak to the media, restricting advocacy for the community.

The leadership coming from Councillor Horne and Wendy Lovell MP is commendable. Now is the time for the Victorian Minister for Roads and Road Safety to act.

The Minister must instruct Vic Roads and Indigo Council to urgently address this situation as it becomes more dire each day.

Herb Ellerbock
President
Indigo Community Voice Inc.