

MLC joins Talbingo hill campaign

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Page 11 | Section: Tumut and Adelong Times

378cm on the page



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SNOWYHORSE RIDERS, Huts 'n Brumbies president Alan Lanyon has recruited One Nation MLC Rod Roberts to his campaign for action concerning sections of the Snowy Mountains Highway from Talbingo through to the top of the mountain.

Mr Roberts says he will be taking the concerns to Transport for NSW via Regional Roads Minister Sam Farraway.

Mr Roberts, Legislative Council assistant president, visited the sections of road in question with Mr Lanyon on Tuesday, having previously driven it on the 2022 October long weekend.

"I saw how bad it was then, and it has clearly deteriorated since then," he said.

"I'm one of these people who think prevention is better than a cure and I would hate to see a horrific accident up on the mountain, and surely there is something that can be done to alleviate the issues."

He insists he is not blaming Snowy Hydro or the contractors for the problem.



One Nation MLC Rod Roberts with Snowyhorseriders, Huts 'n Brumbies president Alan Lanyon in Tumut on Tuesday.

"Where I think the blame lays is with the government; in particular the state government, with the Department of Transport," he said.

"When the plans were going

ahead for Snowy (2.0), surely someone would have realised there was going to be a fair few heavy vehicles going up and down the mountain, so before we start to

turn dirt can we get a plan in place to have a safe road for all users?"

He is concerned about the volume of traffic now using this section of road, not just for Snowy 2.0 work but also tourists now most Covid restrictions have been lifted.

"There are more people using the road there now so we need some safety measures up there," he said.

"There are some huge potholes that people swerve to miss, these big gullies on the side of the road, if you happen to drop an axle over one of those gullies on the edge, it's going to drag your caravan or your boat, your trailer or your vehicle over into there, and what particularly concerns me is those sharp bends up towards the top there. I noticed on the road, the truckies have instigated their own safety system where they've numbered the bends and call up to each other, as with the width and length of these trucks; they can't get around, and it is not their fault the road is not suitable for today's traffic. So if they can have the foresight to do a numbering system on the road, why doesn't the department

of transport step in and legitimise that sort of system, because if you and I were we were driving over there in a truck and from out of this area, we wouldn't know that number existed."

He believes that in these days of automated traffic lights there should be some sort of system where vehicles could have a good run for five minutes coming down and get around those bends, then the lights change and people can go up.

"That's a very simplified approach I know, but I don't have access to the information the Department of Transport has, but surely there could be something worked out that's a much safer, more regulated approach that everybody can use and utilise," he said.

He said that he would be writing to Transport for NSW via the Minister for Regional Roads Sam Farraway, drawing his attention to the issues on this section of road.

Mr Roberts has also got behind the Snowyhorseriders, Huts 'n Brumbies petition to upgrade the road.