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## MEDIA RELEASE

# Sealing Wielangta Road

GLAMORGAN SPRING BAY COUNCIL

Thinks that Wielangta Road should be sealed.

If it was it will be used by thousands of Tasmanians and tourists alike, who visit our east coast and Tasman Peninsular; they will use it as one of the State's highways. It will save many from having to back track on their journeys.

Our Council has not the money, nor has it access to the funds, necessary to bring the route that runs through a perpetual rainforest, over deep clay soils, up to a reasonable standard for what would become necessary for a much used asphalt highway.

It has been informally said that the costs could amount to many millions of dollars.

Once a sealed road has been constructed, if well built, it will last for a number of years, but thereafter will require regular costly maintenance; maintenance that will cost much more than repairing a lightly travelled unpaved road.

Glamorgan Spring Bay Council has for years been receiving a falling share of Government operating grant money and has not the capacity to maintain such a road.

Our Minister Ferguson at the reopening of the highway running along Paradise Gorge, did say that the State Government would seal Wielangta.

It was a good idea then and is a good idea now.

At the 26 April 2022 Ordinary Council Meeting, Council unanimously passed the following motion:

### **DECISION 84/22**

*That Council in response to the letter from the Department of State Growth dated 13<sup>th</sup> September 2021 advises the Department:*

- 1. Council is pleased that the preliminary assessments of options and costings have commenced in response to the Government's commitment to investigate the sealing of Wielangta Road;*
- 2. Council looks forward to reviewing those preliminary figures with all stakeholders prior to making a formal decision about the future pavement of Wielangta Road;*
- 3. Notes that if the decision is to seal Wielangta Road, Council has significant concerns in relation to its future maintenance and management as a local government road; and*
- 4. Council would seek to rescind the decision of 26th April 2017 and subsequent Gazette Notice of 17th May 2017 that the road become a local government road.*

Robert Young  
**Mayor**

-Ends-

For further media details contact Mayor Robert Young on 0417 561 892 or via [admin@freycinet.tas.gov.au](mailto:admin@freycinet.tas.gov.au).