

Advocate p4 11/3/09 SVPA. Swan Valley Regional Assoc. Inc

Road issues smoothed out

By Lucy Rickard

ROAD works on Great Northern Highway seem finally to be running smoothly.

A meeting last week between Swan Hills MLA Frank Alban, Main Roads contract manager Mike Griffin, Swan Valley Planning Authority chairman Peter Enright and several business owners along the highway to iron out issues with the work was deemed to be a success.

Locals have been voicing their opinions of the road works in a series of emails distributed by the SVPA and pointing out what they see as major flaws with the project.

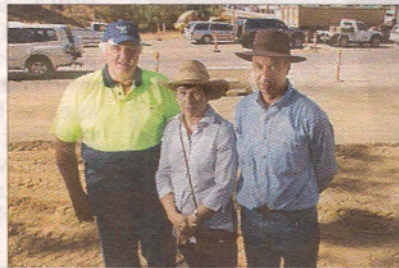
Mr Alban said he was concerned about the distribution of false information about car accidents in the area.

"An email was distributed that said there was a car rollover near the road works but it was actually in The Vines and nowhere near this project," Mr Alban said.

The meeting was also an opportunity for Mr Enright to discuss the "disastrous" intersection where the highway meets West Swan Road with Main Roads.

Main Roads employees are now directing traffic around Upper Swan Primary School during peak periods to reduce problems with traffic at the school.

Mr Enright said many people were still concerned about the inclu-



Peter Enright, Julia Nuich and Duncan Harris at the intersection of West Swan Road and Great Northern Highway.

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sion of overtaking lanes, especially those who owned properties on the highway.

He said people did not want overtaking lanes, but Mr Alban said most people he had spoken to backed the plans.

Mr Alban said it was important for people who saw something of concern to speak up and highlight the problem.

"You can't fix a problem before it's there," Mr Alban said.

Mr Griffin said he was more than willing to accommodate individual requirements when it came to drainage and driveways.

"There have been a lot of concerns and we just have to listen to people's concerns," Mr Griffin said.

"We always expect that we have to confront some problems.

"We just try address it as best as possible."