

A letter for the O&M Advertiser:

Dear Editor,

The Mayor and CEO of Indigo Shire writing in The Indigo Weekly put a very positive spin on the Shire budget that was passed on Tuesday June 29th. What they failed to mention is that there was and still is significant opposition to a budget that proposes to spend millions of taxpayers dollars on bike trails yet budgets only \$129,000 for footpaths, a basic part of the Shire's infrastructure. After a heated debate two councillors voted against the budget. There were 31 submissions (a record I am told) questioning the budget and requesting changes. It was noted on the Council spreadsheet listing all of these submissions that there be no change to the budget. The majority of these submissions requested more spending on basic infrastructure such as footpaths and roads. Each one of these would have represented the views of many citizens. The budget was passed without amendment by a majority vote, disregarding the submissions. All this from a Shire that supposedly prides itself on community consultation.

Yours sincerely,

John Harvey
Beechworth, Victoria