



# TYALGUM DISTRICT COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION [TDCA]

ABN 27 506 140 369

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## TDCA Media Release

18 May 2022

### **Residents of Tyalgum worried Danger of being cut-off due to flood-damaged roads**

The residents of Tyalgum and district are worried about being cut-off from the outside world due to flood-damaged roads.

Tyalgum village, home to more than 500 residents (with a further 1000 plus residents in the surrounding district) lies at the foot of Mount Warning/Wollumbin in the western end of the Tweed Valley.

Tyalgum residents have only two all-weather roads to access Murwillumbah, which is the location of all essential services for Tyalgum residents, such as schools, doctors, groceries and so on. The main route to Murwillumbah is via Tyalgum Road, and the secondary route is via Zara/Numinbah Road.

In the March 2022 floods, the main access to Murwillumbah, Tyalgum Road, was completely cut by a landslip and remains impassable. The repairs required will likely be extensive and expensive.

The president of the TDCA, Mr Mic Julien, said that the Tyalgum community has been deeply affected by the damage to Tyalgum Road. "The damage to our road infrastructure is severe, and it impacts everyone, every day. Every trip to town takes longer, costs more and is more dangerous. Near misses on our narrow, damaged roads are commonplace. Zara Road is the only open road, it is in a severely damaged state, and it is far busier than ever before. Everybody is concerned about what might happen if our road access is cut altogether."

The secondary access to Tyalgum, via Zara/Numinbah Road, is reduced to single lane access in three separate locations due to landslips. Further landslips are possible, even likely, given the ongoing wet weather.

Every resident and visitor to Tyalgum must use Zara/Numinbah Road to access the Village. The traffic levels on this secondary road have increased dramatically.

The Tweed Shire Council (TSC) has estimated the repairs to Tyalgum Road will take 6 to 12 months to complete once work begins. But there is no start date advised, and

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it is likely that repairs will take years unless urgent steps are taken to obtain priority funding and commence works. It appears that the TSC does not have the resources to conduct this repair immediately, given the widespread damage to road Infrastructure across the Tweed Valley.

It is notable that the 'significant repairs' recognised by the TSC include Tyalgum Road, but that the plans to repair these roads are apparently being prepared independently of one another.<sup>1</sup>

Mr Julien said that; "If further damage occurs to Zara/Numinbah Road, the residents of Tyalgum & District will be effectively cut-off from the outside world. We understand that road building takes time, and that the damage across the Tweed is widespread and severe. Even so, our community is afraid that further rain and landslips will cut us off from the outside world altogether. Urgent action is required to consider contingency plans and temporary repairs, as well as more permanent and resilient solutions. The TDCA acknowledges that the repairs to Tyalgum Road will be complex and expensive. But right now, there appears to be no plan to repair Tyalgum Road at all, whilst other repairs are going ahead."

The Tyalgum District and Community Association (TDCA), represents the collective interests of the Tyalgum district. It provides community members with the means to address local, council or even state government issues or concerns. The TDCA is the community's spokesperson. Through the collective efforts of TDCA members, the welfare of the Tyalgum District community is being enhanced, development and services are being encouraged, and the protection and welfare of the community is under ongoing review: <https://www.tdca.org.au/>

Tyalgum Road Working Group on FaceBook:  
<https://www.facebook.com/groups/755050705871599/>

Relevant TSC media releases:

<https://www.tweed.nsw.gov.au/council/news-updates/latest-news/media-releases/1334254-progress-made-on-scenic-drive-landslip-repair-works>

<https://www.tweed.nsw.gov.au/council/news-updates/latest-news/media-releases/1327384-geotech-experts-confirm-tyalgum-rd-at-risk-of-further-slippage>

<https://www.tweed.nsw.gov.au/council/news-updates/latest-news/media-releases/1321787-major-landslips-extensive-damage-to-tweed-road-network>

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<sup>1</sup> <https://www.tweed.nsw.gov.au/community/roads-transport/roadworks-closures>