

Communiqué

Austrroads Board Meeting No. 52
9 May 2024 | Auckland, New Zealand



The Austrroads Board met on 9 May 2024 in Auckland, New Zealand. The meeting was chaired by Louise McCormick, Infrastructure Commissioner, Infrastructure NT, Department of Infrastructure, Planning & Logistics Northern Territory.

The Chair acknowledged the Treaty of Waitangi and Māori as the original people of New Zealand (Aotearoa). She also acknowledged the Australian indigenous peoples as the first peoples of Australia.

Appointment of Deputy Chair

The Board approved the appointment of Brett Gliddon as deputy chair as the former Deputy Chair Gary Swain left the Department of State Growth, so was no longer eligible to be an Austrroads Board member. Gary was promoted to the role of Secretary, Department of Treasury and Finance Tasmania.

Austrroads budget

The Board approved the Austrroads Budget for 2024-25.

Work Program 2024-25

The Board approved the following projects:

Project code	Title
AAM6160	Updating the Assessment of Remaining Service Life of Pavements
AAM6161	Updating Austrroads Asset Management Test Methods
ABT6142	National Stocktake for Structural Assets
APT6117	Assessing Impacts of HV Increased Axle Loads on Pavements
APT6112	Pavement Design Model & Reliability of Pavement Performance
APT6124	Laboratory Testing Protocol for Liquid Anti-stripping Additives
APT6155	Investigating New Performance Testing of Granular Materials
APT6135	Decarbonisation and Improved Sustainability of Asphalt Pavements
APT6390	Improving Characterisation of Temperature Effects on Pavement
APD6131	Incorporating Rail Construction in the NPS and Online Portal
ART6125	Insights into Road Tunnel Operations
ART6520	Managing Over Height Vehicle Risks for Road Tunnels – Research
ART6521	Cost of Operating and Maintaining Road Tunnels
SAG6509	Road Safety Audits – Phase B Implementation
SAG6510	Road Safety On-line Tools and Apps – Implementation Planning
SAG6507	Best Practice Guidance in Road Safety Management
SAG6506	Guidance on Speed Management
SAG6508	Comprehensive Guidance for Raised Intersections

SAG6411	Updating Guidance on Drug Driving Deterrence
SRD6499	Enabling Sustainable Management of Road Design Guidance
SRD6498	Pilot Next Generation Road Design Guidance – Roundabouts
SRD6500	Develop Road Design Training Material
SRD6501	Road Design Guidance for Large Freight Vehicles
SRL6504	Overseas Licensing – Implementation Phase B
SRL6503	Investigating Equitable Pathways for Road User Access
SRL6505	Update to Written-Off Vehicles Registers
NEG6531	Design and Implementation Guidance on Intersection Speed Zones
NEG6523	Incident Response for Low and Zero Emission Vehicles
NEG6524	Review of AGTM Part 4 – Network Management Strategies
NEG6525	Review of AGTM Part 9 – Transport Controls Systems
NEG6527	AGTM Update – Freeway Capacity Analysis
NEG6529	Operational Initiatives to Increase Motorway Capacity
NEG6522	Guidance for the Use of Truck Mounted Attenuators During TTM
NEF6532	Deployment of Weigh-in-Motion – Practical Considerations
NEF6533	Road and Rail Freight Contestability
NEF6534	Urban Freight Scoping Study
ESG6515	Development of Carbon Measurement and Reporting Tool
ESC6516	Research Climate Resilience Needs and Guidance Approaches
ESC6517	Develop Climate Resilience and Adaptation Metrics for Transport
ESC6518	Identify, Prioritise and Deploy Adaptation Actions
ESE6519	Environment and Sustainability Stocktake Continuation
VTO6514	Stocktake and Roadmap for Vehicle Technology Deployments
VTD6512	Uplift Road Agency Data Collection and Exchange
VTD6511	Options for a National System to Manage the Security of CITS

Austrroads risk management

The Risk Committee Chair provided an update on the committee meeting, noting IT risks, workforce capacity challenges, and the need for national harmonisation to drive efficiency, while also highlighting the importance of board continuity.

Austrroads Medal

The Board noted Neil Scale's receipt of the Austrroads Medal awarded to a person who has made an exceptionally meritorious contribution to Austrroads. Neil's medal is only the twelfth awarded..

Road Safety Week

The meeting was held during the Road Safety Week in Australia. It was highlighted that Austrroads is committed to the goal of zero road fatalities.

Climate change and resilience

The Board discussed supply chain risks arising from weather events, government priorities affecting skilled labour, and the BITRE report, which highlights rail's climate vulnerability. The need for upcoming initiatives to address resilience, decarbonisation, and workforce issues was emphasised. The Board agreed that these topics should be key focuses of the Resilience Transport 2025 seminar and decided to table agenda topics for the seminar at the August meeting.

Priority projects

Harmonisation of Temporary Traffic Management Practice

The Board approved publishing the report on the first 18 months' operation of the Austroads Innovative Temporary Traffic Management Device and Solution Assessment (AITDSA) Scheme. The Board also agreed to delegate to the Austroads Chair the approval of the IT Registry development work.

National Heavy Vehicle Driver Competency Framework – Implementation

The Board approved the establishment of a Steering Committee to develop a draft Inception Report by August 2024 and to commence detailed policy work on licensing and training.

Austroads as a Digital Driver Licence and Credential Verifier

The Board approved the project and associated budget.

National Heavy Vehicle Access System

The Board approved pausing work once Stage 1 deliverables are completed, with the project not recommencing until agreed upon by the Board.

Austroads Technical Specifications

The Board was updated on the progress of adopting the Austroads Technical Specifications (ATS), with plans to continue under current arrangements for the next few years while developing a sustainable business case. The Austroads Technical Advisory Group (ATAG) is effective, and despite challenges, a significant increase in ATS adoption is expected over the next 12 months.

Other priority projects

The Board approved the implementation of the National Prequalification Scheme and the rescheduling of the following projects: HVNL Technology and Data Framework – Design and Transition Planning (TCA6454) and Vehicle data exchange trial – phase 2 (TCA6457).

Next Austroads Meeting

The next Austroads Board meeting will be held 31 July 2024 in Darwin, Northern Territory.