

Communiqué

Austrroads Board Meeting No. 14 Sydney, 14 March 2013



The Austrroads Board met on 14 March in Sydney. Andy Milazzo, Austrroads Chair and Deputy Chief Executive, Transport Services, Department of Planning, Transport and Infrastructure South Australia, chaired the meeting.

New Board Members

Three new Board members were welcomed:

- Stephen Troughton, Managing Director, Main Roads Western Australia
- Shane Gregory, General Manager, Transport Service Infrastructure Division Department of Infrastructure, Energy and Resources, Tasmania
- Marcia Hoffmann, Acting Chief Executive Department of Transport Northern Territory

The Board acknowledged the passing of Nick Dimopoulos, the Chief Executive of NTC and expressed its appreciation for his leadership of NTC and his contribution to Austrroads.

Road Safety – Embedding the Safe Systems Approach

Pam Palmer, Austrroads Safety Program Manager, presented the findings of an investigation into the way the safe systems approach has been embedded in Australian and New Zealand road agencies. The four cornerstones of the safe system are: safe roads and roadsides; safe vehicles; safe speeds; and safe (that is, alert and compliant) road users. The safe system forms the basis of the National Road Safety Strategy 2011-2020 (NRSS) and is the foundation of jurisdictions' monitoring and reporting of progress against national road safety targets.

Austrroads has adopted the safe system and has committed to producing resources for its members and other stakeholders that incorporate safe system principles and practices. This objective is being led by the Austrroads Safety Program with the aim of driving the adoption of safe system concepts by all Austrroads Programs so the concept is integrated across the spectrum of road related research and technical practice.

It found that almost universally, the safe system is embedded at the strategic level in Australian and New Zealand road agencies. Almost all road safety strategies and action plans produced in recent years articulate the safe system and use its four cornerstones as a framework for action. Most also acknowledge critical supporting actions in the areas of research, data and performance monitoring, community engagement and management and leadership.

At the operational level, most jurisdictions are engaged in trials or wider deployment of infrastructure treatments which are aimed at making the road and roadside more 'forgiving', in line with the safe system. While this is positive progress, there is still much work to be done to ensure the system is embedded in decision-making and planning.

Customer Service

Peter Duncan, Chief Executive Roads & Maritime Services New South Wales (RMS), presented an overview of the recent changes to the RMS approach to customer service. Customer service is one of Austroads' strategic priorities.

Around 75 per cent of community transactions with government in NSW are in relation to transport. Key customer service challenges fall into the broad categories of demographic, economic, social and technology. A survey of 6,000 customers has inspired a revised customer service focus that enables safe and efficient journeys. The journey management approach includes assets maintenance. It was agreed that an update on customer service initiatives by members be a discussion item at a subsequent meeting.

NTC Review

The draft report of the NTC review was considered by ministers at the SCOTI meeting in November 2012. Ministers agreed that major stakeholders be consulted on the review report and recommendations, with SCOTI to consider endorsement of the recommendations, including the implementation plan, at its first meeting in 2013.

The draft review report makes two recommendations specific to Austroads.

The Austroads Board agreed to a Memorandum of Understanding between TISOC and Austroads, and to review Austroads research procurement and delivery including the sustainable expertise model. Austroads will identify educational and other research organisations, in conjunction with member organisations and invite them to register their interest in working with Austroads on the identification of research priorities and the delivery of research projects.

National Guidelines for Transport System Management

The Guidelines provide a detailed framework for strategic-level transport planning and analytical approaches to transport project appraisal. Austroads has also published a complementary set of guides: *Guide to Project Evaluation* and *Guide to Road Transport Planning*. In November 2012, the Board agreed to fund a scoping study for an update of the Guidelines.

The scoping study involved extensive stakeholder consultation with jurisdictions, industry and experts. This has included a workshop with a cross-section of stakeholders; release of an issues paper to which stakeholders were able to respond; and one-on-one consultation with selected experts in the area. The consultation indicated strong support for the Guidelines among policy, industry and practitioner stakeholders, including Infrastructure Australia.

The Board agreed to the update which will enhance the multi-modal perspective of the Guidelines and strengthen the multi-sector focus. It will ensure adequate account is taken of the need to integrate transport, land use planning and environmental considerations, and provide guidance on emerging issues and developments in areas such as the treatment of active transport, wider economic benefits, treatment of risk in construction costs and demand estimation. A proposal for funding the update will be presented to TISOC.

CPEE

Austroads and the Australian Asphalt Pavement Association (AAPA) originally entered in to an agreement in 2002 to support the Centre for Pavement Engineering Education (CPEE). The current agreement concludes in June 2013. The Board endorsed the draft Memorandum of Understanding which commits Austroads to providing annual financial support to CPEE and assistance with revising the learning modules each year.

Research Program

2012-13 work program

Progress with the work program for 2012-13 is summarised in the table below.

	Assets	Freight	Network	R & L	Safety	Technology	Other	Total
Complete	1	2	6	2	9	5	1	26
Deferred/cancelled	3		1					4
Active	17	9	23	13	30	44	0	136
Total approved	21	11	30	15	39	49	1	166

Details of the projects in the 2012-13 work program are available on the Austroads website.

2013-14 work program

The Board agreed to the proposed 2013-14 research work program, outlined in Attachment one.

Program Management Arrangements 2013 to 2016

A key element of Austroads operations is the program management approach to the delivery of the strategic plan. There are currently six programs. Each program focuses on an operational area of the road system but in doing so they address the eight strategic priorities of Austroads by undertaking a range of projects and contribute to improving transport in Australia and New Zealand.

The responsibility for the programs rotates periodically between jurisdictions to share the expertise developed at a national level. It has been previously agreed that the program managers would change over at the end of 2012-13. The Board determined the allocation of programs amongst member organisations as follows:

- Assets– NZTA
- Freight – Commonwealth Department of Infrastructure and Transport
- Network – Roads and Maritime Services NSW
- Registration and Licensing – VicRoads
- Safety – Main Roads Western Australia
- Technology – Department of Transport and Main Roads Queensland

Registration and Licensing Program Support

Austroads currently provides funding to the member organisation hosting Austroads Programs for the provision of program support staff. The Board agreed that from July 2013 support for the Registration and Licensing Program will be provided through the national office. The Program has several aspects which make it a good choice for national office support including responsibility for NEVDIS and overseas driver licence issues.

Austroads Safety Task Force and the National Road Safety Executive Group

The Board agreed to an expanded term of reference for the Safety Task Force to oversee the National Road Safety Strategy. This is included in the draft MoU with TISOC and Austroads.

International Activities

Austrroads continues to have strong involvement with the World Road Association. Austrroads is the WRA national committee for Australia and New Zealand. Gary Liddle, Chief Executive, VicRoads is the Australian First Delegate to the WRA. Ernst Zollner from NZTA is the New Zealand First Delegate.

Reports

Austrroads also considered reports from the following organisations:

- ARRB Group
- Australian Local Government Association
- Bureau of Infrastructure, Transport and Regional Economics
- National Transport Commission
- Transport Certification Australia Ltd

Future meetings

The next Austrroads Board meeting will be in Darwin on 20 June 2013.

Attachment one: Austroads 2013-14 work program

Assets	
Continuing Projects 2013-14	
AT1064	Long-Term Performance Monitoring to Develop Consistent Performance Models
AT1484	Review of standard methods for measuring road condition
AT1490	Improving the estimation of the cost of accelerated road wear due to possible increases in axle mass limits
AT1534	Management of Road Assets (including electrical and electronic)
AT1536	Good Practice Reseal Management
AT1537	Bridge Management through Performance Models
AT1539	Application of New Technologies to Improve Risk Management
AT1540	Understanding the impact on pavement surfaces from next generation freight vehicles and developing practical network prediction models and responses
AT1612	Future Availability & Increasing Cost of Bitumen or Alternative Surfacing Binders
AT1730	Benefits and Risks of Investing in Network Level Deflection Data Collection
AT1732	Defining asset management LOS requirements for freight on rural arterial roads
AT1733	Analysing dynamic wheel loading and its Effects on the Network
AT1734	Refine and deploy the road wear modelling methodologies
AT1736	Economics of Materials Availability and Recycling
New Projects 2013-14	
AT1735	Guidelines for the Development of a Framework for the Asset Management of Road Reserves
AT1737	Define LOS requirements of non freight customers
AT1738	Data requirements for improved statistical analysis of the relationship between road surface characteristics & crashes
AT1899	Maintenance of a WIM Users Website
AT1902	Asset Management Business Process for Pavement Assets
AT1907	Update of Road Condition Monitoring Specifications, Test Methods and Commentaries
	Developing the Data and Cost Information Required to Support the Heavy Vehicle Charging and Investment Reform
AP1900	Update the Austroads Guide to Asset Management – including Parts 5A, 5F, 7 and other parts
Freight	
Continuing Projects 2013-14	
FS1703	Light Freight – Understanding its role in Urban Logistics
FS1804	Review of PBS standards for Level 3 and Level 4 vehicles
FS1805	Quantification of benefits resulting from use of High Productivity Vehicles
FS1807	Best practice guidelines for planning and development of industrial estates in Local Government areas
FS1808	Moving freight in emergency situations
FS1812	Use of Auxiliary Brakes in Heavy Vehicles
New Projects 2013-14	
FS1806	Development of a policy framework to support safety, efficiency, and productivity of light freight in the urban context
FS1809	Identification of 'Life Line' freight routes supporting communities
FS1814	Publish a manual for Austroads jurisdictions on bridge assessment processes and procedures (FS1580 Stage 2 Rec. 1)
FS1891	Expansion of PBS Route Assessment Tool
FS1892	Opportunities and Framework for Direct Private Investment in Public Road Infrastructure
FS1893	Management of Over Size and Over Mass Movements
FS1894	Address Process Gaps/Lack of Details in Assessment Management Ministerial Guidelines

Network

Continuing Projects 2013-14

NS1697	Development of ITS Architecture (Stage 2) - Logical Architecture
NS1780	Urban Cycling Infrastructure Design Resource
NS1790	NBN Coordination
NT1789	Development of Guide Content on Managed Motorways
NT1589	Operational Management of Arterial / Motorway Interfaces for Network Optimisation
NT1782	Ability to absorb information through electronic and static signs
NT1785	Cooperative ITS (Stage 2)
NT1786	Guide to Traffic Management – Parts 1, 2 and 13: Minor Guide Review
NT1787	Harmonisation of Practices
NT1788	Level of Service Metric
NT1792	Cycling Aspects of Austroads Guides Review
NT1795	Guide to Traffic Management – Part 4: Minor Guide Review
NT1796	Guide to Traffic Management – Part 5: Guide Review
NT1797	Guide to Traffic Management – Part 7: Minor Guide Review
NT1798	Guide to Traffic Management – Part 8 Guide Review
NT1802	Procurement of ITS (international practice)
NT1803	Development of Product Acceptance Techniques for Network Devices

New Projects 2013-14

NS1779	Low Coat Interventions to Encourage Increased Cycling
NS1912	Pedestrian Facility Selection Tool
NT1783	Improving accessibility with network operations planning
NT1909	Techniques for Signal Management to Support Network Operations
NT1913	ITS Performance Benchmark
NT1919	National Traffic Control at Worksites - Implementation Plan

Registration and Licensing

Continuing Projects 2013-14

RS1689	National Arrangements for Managing a Pending Licence Sanction
RS1731	National Alternative Vehicle Policy Framework - Power Assisted Pedal Cycles (PAPCs) and motorised mobility devices
RS1743	Managing Long Stay Temporary Overseas Licence Holders in Australia
RS1744	Indigenous Licensing - Being Assessed to Obtain a Learner Licence
RS1745	Indigenous Licensing - Tracking Forward to a Provisional Licence
RS1746	Development of Electronic Logbook Standards for Learner Drivers
RS1852	Investigation of Levers Which Influence People's Choice of Vehicle
RO1748	Strategic Direction for NEVDIS

New Projects 2013-14

RS1750	National Alternative Vehicle Policy Framework - Segways
RS1751	National Arrangements for Managing the Transfer of Driver Licence Conditions
RS1853	Minimum Security Standards for Driver Licences
RS1854	Research Into the Adoption End of Life Vehicles Continuous Registration
RS1911	Motorcycle Specific Hazard Perception Test (HPT)

Safety

Continuing Projects 2013-14

SS1494	Road crash injuries - cost and prevention
SS1707	Development of a best practice model Graduated Licensing Scheme for car drivers
SS1710	Motorcycle in-depth crash study
SS1753	Review of BAC limits in Australia and New Zealand
SS1754	Options to extend coverage of alcohol interlock programs
SS1758	Development of a model safety management system for a road authority
SS1755	Options for rehabilitation in interlock programs
SS1757	Best practice interventions for high risk and repeat traffic offenders
SS1759	Development of Good Practice Enforcement Guidelines
SS1761	Improving safety for disadvantaged groups
SP1705	Recommended Safe System Practice Amendments to the Guide to Road Design
ST1706	National Guidelines for Setting Speed Limits at Higher-Risk Locations
ST1759	Development of Good Practice Enforcement Guidelines
ST1761	Improving safety for disadvantaged groups
ST1762	Towards the Harmonisation of Best Practice Speed Limits
ST1763	Crash Analysis – Australian and New Zealand data
ST1764	Investigation of Key Crashes Types – Head-on and Run-off-road crashes in urban areas
ST1766	Safe system in the Planning Process
ST1767	Improving the Performance of Safe System Infrastructure
ST1768	Achieving Safe System Speeds on Urban Arterial Roads
ST1769	Safe System Roads for Local Government
ST1771	Road Safety Audit & Road Safety Engineering Toolkit – Further development & website maintenance
ST1774	Revision of Austroads Guide to Road Safety- Part 6: Road Safety Audit
ST1776	Revision of Austroads Guide to Road Safety- Part 8: Treatment of Crash Locations
ST1863	Development of a Detection and Advanced Warning System for at-risk Heavy Commercial Vehicles on Steep Descents

New Projects 2013-14

ST1765	Investigation of Key Crashes Types – Rear-end Crashes in Urban and Rural Areas
ST1770	Investigation of treated black spots that did not achieve expected safety benefits
ST1773	Revision of Austroads Guide to Road Safety - Part 9: Roadside Hazard Management
ST1870	Infrastructure improvements to reduce motorcycle casualties
ST1888	Strategic Review of the Austroads Guide to Road Safety

Technology

Continuing Projects 2013-14

TS1543	Road geometry study for improved rural safety – Stage 1
TS1606	Standardise Drawing Presentation
TS1607	Road design for heavy vehicles
TS1712	Valuing Travel Time Savings for Freight in Australia
TS1834	Realising 100 year design life in an aggressive environment
TS1835	Specification and use of geopolymer concrete in the manufacture of structural and non-structural components
TS1837	Improved Bridge Deterioration Models, Predictive Tools and Costs
TS1843	Grade Corrected Acceleration Lengths for Motorway Entrance Ramps
TS1877	National Prequalification System - Additional Specialist Categories
TP1668	Review Guide to Road Design Part 6: Roadside Design, Safety and Barriers
TP1681	Review of the ASMS 1994 and the BAG Guidelines for Bridge Load Capacity Assessment 1997
TP1718	Update to the Guide to Road Design – Part 4
TP1670	Updating Externalities Unit Values

TP1885	Update the National Guidelines for Transport System Management (NGTSM) in Australia
TT1353	Asphalt Properties and Mix Design Procedures
TT1601	Standardise Bridge Barrier Designs
TT1614	Pavement Wear Effects of Heavy Vehicle Axle Groups
TT1664	Cemented Materials Characterisation
TT1665	Polymer Modified Binder Sprayed Seal Trials
TT1715	Validation of Enhanced Pavement Design Model
TT1850	Review of Guide to Pavement Technology Part 4F
TT1546	Safety Provisions for Floodways over Roads
TT1817	Maximising the use of reclaimed asphalt pavement in asphalt mix design
TT1818	Development and validation of a new long-term aging test for bitumens and PMBs
TT1819	Characterisation and performance evaluation of granular bases
TT1820	Maximising the performance of sprayed seals
TT1824	Strategic Review of Pavement Design Practice
TT1823	Binder characterisation properties for enhanced performance
TT1825	Mix design and field evaluation of foamed bitumen stabilised pavements
TT1826	Improved design procedures for asphalt pavements
TT1849	Review of Guide to Pavement Technology Part 4B
TT1881	Investigating Key Performance Measures and Predictions on Unsealed Roads
New Projects 2013-14	
TS1878	Review of Overseas Tunnels
TP1844	Guide to Road Design - Revision of Part 1 Introduction to Road Design and Part 2 Design Considerations
TP1847	Review of Guide to Road Design Part 6B - Roadside Environment
TP1623	Updating Austroads RUE Unit Values (Guide to Project Evaluation Part 4 - Project Evaluation Data)
TP1840	Revision of Austroads Guide to Road Tunnels - Part 2: Planning, Design and Commissioning
TP1845	Review of the Guide to Road Design - Part 3
TP1903	Bitumen Materials Safety Guide - 4th Edition
TT1545	Speed Reduction Devices for High Speed Environments
TT1821	Long-term environmental impact on the performance of aging hot mix asphalt
TT1838	Traffic Impact Estimation Tool for Small Intersection Projects Including Safety Initiatives
TT1898	Delivery of a Robust Pavement Design Software Tool
TT1905	Accelerate evaluation of the effectiveness of supplementary cementitious material to suppress damaging AAR expansion in concrete structures
TT1906	Monitoring National Sprayed Seal Trials
TT1908	Integration of high modulus EME asphalt materials in the pavement structural design process
	Review of 3 existing CPEE distance learning units