

# Communiqué

## Austroads Board Meeting No. 19

Launceston, 6 November 2014



The Austroads Board met on 6 November 2014 in Launceston, Tasmania. Clare Gardiner-Barnes, Chief Executive, Department of Transport Northern Territory chaired the meeting.

### Governance

The Austroads Board determined new appointments to important leadership positions on the Board and Executive Committee.

- Peter Duncan, Chief Executive, Roads and Maritime Services New South Wales, has been appointed Chair of the Austroads Board for a two year term.
- Clare Gardiner-Barnes, Chief Executive, Department of Transport Northern Territory, has been appointed Deputy Chair for a two year term.
- As incoming Chief Executive, Nick Koukoulas has been appointed Company Secretary and Public Officer of Austroads Ltd.

The Austroads Executive Committee will now comprise:

- Austroads Chair – Peter Duncan
- Austroads Deputy Chair – Clare Gardiner-Barnes
- Austroads Chief Executive – Nick Koukoulas
- Shane Gregory, Department of State Growth Tasmania
- Andrew Jagers, Department of Infrastructure and Regional Development
- Stephen Troughton , Main Roads Western Australia

Neil Scales, Director General, Department of Transport and Main Roads Queensland, was appointed the Australian First Delegate to the World Road Association.

### Strategic Projects

At the June meeting the Board identified five new strategic streams of work to be developed.

- **Network Productivity and Congestion** The Board approved a project that will identify forward looking approaches to managing the road network. This work will complement working being undertaken in the update of the NGTSM.
- **Developer Contributions** The developer contribution work to progress and include a separate project led by the Northern Territory to address rural and remote issues and have an appropriate level of funding allocated in 2014-15.
- **Community Service Obligations** More work on the scope of these projects is to be undertaken with BITRE and prioritised to commence in 2014-15.
- **Assets Register** A detailed business case will be developed and brought back to the Board. The business case will include an inventory of jurisdiction practice and identify potential costs and implications of harmonisation. The Board also endorsed a project to research the harmonisation of test methods.
- **Safety at Road Work Sites** A project is to be explored with the aim of producing a clear and concise Safety at Road Works Sites Guide. The project will identify best practice for implementation in Australia and New Zealand and feed into the review of the Australian Standard.

- **Registration and Licensing – A Way Forward** The Board approved a project focusing on the use of technology to achieve harmonisation of practice. The project will examine jurisdiction practice and successful initiatives from overseas.

## 2014-15 Research Work Program

The status of the 2014-15 work program as at 30 September 2014 is summarised in the table below.

	Assets	Freight	Network	R & L	Safety	Technology	Total
Complete	2	-	1	-	-	2	5
Deferred/cancelled	-	-	-	-	1	-	1
Active	17	15	27	17	34	42	152
<b>Total approved</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>44</b>	<b>158</b>

## Development of Austroads Strategic Plan 2016-20

The current Austroads Strategic Plan concludes in June 2016. A priority for all Board members and the Chief Executive will be the development of the next strategic plan which will direct the work Austroads from 2016-2020.

## Review of National Guidelines for Transport System Management (NGTSM)

The updated NGTSM will be a web product and known as the Australian Transport Assessment and Planning Guidelines (ATAP). The Board approved a new project to scope the work required to develop a consistent way to estimate the value of time and develop unit parameters to estimate the costs of travel time unreliability and the benefits of addressing it.

The Board acknowledged the excellent work undertaken by Michael Sutton (DIRD), Mark Harvey (BITRE), Peter Tisato (DPTI SA), Ed McGeehan (VicRoads) and Elaena Gardner (Austroads) to bring Stage 1 to this point.

## Cooperative ITS (C-ITS)

The Board considered a C-ITS progress report. The focus of the C-ITS project has shifted in 2014-15 away from research activities towards establishing the operational framework required to support C-ITS. The Board acknowledged the excellent work and leading role Stuart Ballingall (Austroads) has taken in the area of C-ITS.

## National Evidence of Identity: Risk Assessment and Management Plan

The Board endorsed a new Registration and Licensing project to address emerging issues resulting from the Commonwealth Attorney General's Department program of work to strengthen Australia's identity security. The project will assess the feasibility and risk of implementing the Identity Proofing Guidelines by road agencies. The work is to be undertaken this financial year.

## Active Travel

The Board agreed that a project proposal on 'active travel' should be developed for consideration for inclusion in the 2015-16 work program including possible development of a strategy, outcomes sought and resourcing implications.

## Austroads Chief Engineers' Group (CEG)

The inaugural meeting of the CEG was held on 19 August in Sydney. Chris Harrison, RMS NSW, was elected Chair. The Group will work closely with the Technology Program to review the current and forward work program including a review of the effectiveness of the Accelerated Loading Facility operations over the last 20 years. Members will also provide input into the Austroads Safety Barrier Assessment Panel and the Transport Infrastructure Product Evaluation Scheme.

## **Roads Australia Agreement**

The Board endorsed the continuation of an agreement between Austroads and Roads Australia. The agreement describes the roles of the two organisations and how they will work together.

## **International Activities**

Austroads has renewed the agreements with AASHTO and TAC. The Board supported hosting a TAC delegation of Canadian Ministers in Australia.

The next four-yearly World Road Association (WRA) Congress will be held from 2–6 November 2015 in Seoul, Korea. The *Congress theme is Roads and Mobility – creating new value from transport*. It will include a ministers' session with the theme: *Evolution of road policy for the next generation*. Austroads national office will coordinate arrangements for an Australasian delegation.

Australia and/or New Zealand are represented on 14 of the 17 WRA technical committees. Australian representatives chair two of the technical committees and there are English speaking secretaries from Australia or New Zealand on several technical committees. Representatives are appointed to committees on a four year cycle which run in parallel with the WRA Strategic Plan. There will be a call for nominations to the next cycle of committees in the near future.

## **Reports**

Austroads also considered reports from:

- Australian Local Government Association
- Bureau of Infrastructure, Transport and Regional Economics
- National Transport Commission

## **Austroads Awards**

The Board presented Andy Milazzo with the Austroads Medal in recognition of his outstanding contribution to Austroads over 27 years, but particularly as Chair, Deputy Chair, long-standing Board member and Australian First Delegate to the World Road Association.

The Board presented retiring Chief Executive Murray Kidnie with an Austroads Medal. The award was in recognition of his distinguished and outstanding contribution to Austroads and its activities as Chief Executive for 13 years. Murray's leadership, commitment and dedication have placed Austroads in a firm position for a strong future.

In the meeting Clare Gardiner-Barnes also acknowledged the work of Murray Kidnie as Austroads Chief Executive for 13 years. He had done an excellent job and she thanked him for his achievements over that time for which he could be justifiably proud.

## **Future Meetings**

The next meeting will be held on Thursday 26 March 2015 in Perth WA.