

Communiqué

Austrroads Strategic Planning Workshop and Board Meeting No. 21 Melbourne, 25 June 2015



The Austrroads Board met on 25 June 2015 in Melbourne, Victoria. Peter Duncan, Chief Executive, Roads and Maritime Services New South Wales chaired the meeting.

Strategic Planning 2016-2020

The development of the new strategic plan continues. A paper proposing the new strategic direction of Austrroads will be presented to the next TISOC meeting in September 2015.

The organisation structure of the National office had been reviewed to streamline operations, reflect current practices and facilitate the operation and timely delivery of the Austrroads work program. The NEVDIS component will commence in July / August 2015. Program restructure and delivery will commence in July 2016.

Strategic Project Report

At the June 2014 meeting the Board identified five new strategic streams of work. An update on these works streams are provided below.

- **Data Harmonisation and Assets Register**
The Board agreed to proceed with stage 2 of the data harmonisation project, which will deliver: a proposed road asset data standard; a draft implementation strategy; and a final business case incorporating agency specific impact statements by June 2016. Subsequent steps are expected to include: development of a final implementation strategy; and publication of an Austrroads Road Asset Data Standard (Version 1) by December 2016.
- **Developer/Government Contributions** This project will identify funding and financing options, including developer contributions, for remote and regional roads in Australia. It is currently going through a tender process.
- **Community Service Obligations** BITRE will start work on this project in July 2015.
- **Network Productivity and Congestion** Road agencies have a good understanding of what causes urban traffic congestion, however there is an opportunity to improve the evidence base that informs the mix and benefits of various strategies to ease congestion. This project will produce six deliverables:
 1. Congestion Causes Report
 2. Congestion Interventions Report
 3. Road Agency Maturity Report
 4. Road Agency Capability Assessment Model
 5. Customer Engagement Report
 6. Executive Presentation

The tender process has been completed and contracts with the preferred consultant are being finalised.

- **Safety at Road Work Sites** A proposal to Standards Australia for the review of AS1742.3 Traffic Control for Worksites, has been approved. Standards Australia is currently determining resourcing and timeframes for delivery. Due to the significant interest from industry on this issue and the need to align Austrroads and industry initiatives, a Steering Committee has been established with executive representation from road agencies, Roads Australia, AAPA, TMAA and Standards Australia.
- **Registration and Licensing – A Way Forward** Jurisdictional and stakeholder consultation and the overseas research have been completed. An initial high level framework for the strategy has been developed. The draft strategy document was reviewed by the Registration and Licensing Task Force at its meeting in June. The project is now expected to be completed in July.

2014-15 Research Work Program

The status of the 2014-15 work program as at 15 May 2015 is summarised in the table below.

	Assets	Freight	Network	R & L	Safety	Technology	Other	Total
Complete	6	3	12	6	10	14	-	51
Deferred/cancelled	1	-	-	3	-		-	4
Active	13	14	18	9	24	30	1	109
Total approved	20	17	30	18	35	44	1	165

Assets Program

The Board endorsed the proposed work program comprised of 11 continuing projects and two new projects for commencement in 2015-16:

- Data Harmonisation Stage II : Final Business Case and Implementation (BA2057)
- Network Trend Analysis to Identify the Effectiveness of Maintenance Activities on Pavement Condition (AT1932)

Freight Program

The Board endorsed the proposed work program comprised of 10 continuing projects and four new projects for commencement in 2015-16:

- National strategic weigh in motion network (FS1896)
- Life line routes risk indicator (FS2029)
- Re-assessment of impacts of the use of HPVs on Australian highway pavements (FS2030)
- Future challenges of changing agricultural equipment (FS2033)

Network Program

The Board endorsed the proposed work program comprised of 17 continuing projects and 14 new projects for commencement in 2015-16:

- Harmonisation of ITS Technical Specifications (NS2022)
- Operationalising the product acceptance process (NS2049)
- Techniques for Incident Management to Support Network Operations (NS1994)
- Network Operations Decision Support Tool: Requirements and Development (NS2003)
- Bicycle Parking Review (NS1996)
- GTM Part 6 Intersections, Interchanges and Crossings (NT2023)
- GTM Part 9 Traffic Operations (NT2010)
- GTM Part 10 Traffic Control and Communication Devices (NT1799)
- GTM Part 11 Parking (NT1800)
- GTM Part 12 Traffic Impacts on Developments (NT1791)
- Guide to Managed Motorways (NP2025)
- Guide to Traffic Management Quick Reference (NP2024)
- Cycling Aspects of Austroads Guides (NT2011)
- Assessment of Key Road Agency Actions to Support Automated Vehicles (BN2045)

Registration and Licensing Program

The Board endorsed the proposed work program comprised of six continuing projects and six new projects for commencement in 2015-16.

- National Registration & Licensing Strategy – Development of Strategic Action Plan (BR2026)
- Investigation of potential registration and licensing issues with the introduction of automated vehicles (BR1982)
- Implementation of National Identity Proofing Guidelines (RS2027)
- Alternative Vehicles: motorised mobility devices (MMDs) – Australian Standard (RS2055)
- Alternative Vehicles – Motorised Personal Transportation Devices (RS1978)
- Assessing Fitness to Drive Guidelines – National Implementation Plan (RS2036).

Chris McNally, VicRoads, provided an update on developments in the area of facial biometrics since the March Board meeting.

Safety Program

The Board endorsed the proposed work program comprised of 15 continuing projects and three new projects for commencement in 2015-16:

- Safety Benefits of Cooperative ITS and Automated Vehicles (SS1867)
- A National Approach to Measuring Non-Fatal Crash Outcomes (SS2034)
- Safe System Infrastructure on Mixed Use Arterials (SS2035)

The 2015-16 Safety work program will address the Safety objective in the Austroads Strategic Plan 2012-16 by setting a program of strategic and technical research to address each of the four cornerstones of the safe system (safe roads and roadsides, safe vehicles, safe speeds and safe road users). There is also strong alignment with the National Road Safety Action Plan (NRSAP) 2015-2017. The overall priority focus is for projects that assist road authorities to make the changes necessary to implement the nationally and internationally agreed safe system approach.

Technology Program

A 2014-15 progress report and proposed streams of work for 2015-16 were considered.

A proposal to fund targeted research to independently assess the change in properties of GP cement if the limestone content was raised from 7.5% to 12% was endorsed.

The funding of this new project will be sourced from the existing 2015-16 Technology Program budget and the proposed 2015-16 work plan will be revised.

Review of National Guidelines for Transport System Management (NGTSM)

TISOC approved publication of the first stage documents and they are now available online via an interim website <http://ngtsmguidelines.com/>. A number of elements of Stage 2 of the update are already underway, including consultancies on active travel and public transport.

Cooperative ITS (C-ITS)

C-ITS refers to the use of wireless communications between vehicles, infrastructure, centres and personal devices, which enable systems that cooperatively work together to deliver safety, efficiency and environmental outcomes beyond what standalone systems can achieve.

Multiple wireless communications technologies will be used by C-ITS for data exchange. Dedicated Short Range Communications (DSRC) using the 5.9 GHz band will be a critical component of the C-ITS platform, particularly for vehicle safety applications, due to its low latency and high availability of data transfer. Feedback received from international colleagues suggests market deployment of C-ITS using 5.9 GHz DSRC could commence in some vehicle models and roadside infrastructure in overseas jurisdictions from 2016 onwards.

The Policy Framework for ITS in Australia, endorsed by SCOTI in November 2011, recognises Austroads lead role in establishing ongoing management arrangements for C-ITS in the 5.9 GHz band. In line with this direction, the Austroads C-ITS project's primary objective is to ensure that a regulatory and operational

framework is in place that will enable C-ITS to be deployed locally, in a way that is nationally consistent and harmonised where appropriate with international standards.

Major international players are the USA, who has adopted a regulatory approach and Europe and Japan who have adopted a market approach. The driver for this work in the USA is safety whilst in Europe and Japan it is productivity and efficiency.

In Australia a systems engineering approach is being taken to establish the operational framework for C-ITS. Work is progressing well in the three identified core operational functions:

- spectrum management and device licensing
- assurance of compliance with standards
- Security Credential Management System.

Austrroads Awards

Austrroads awards recognise the contribution of individuals to our work. Most people undertaking work for Austrroads, usually staff of Austrroads' member organisations, do that work in addition to their regular work. The success of Austrroads is heavily dependent on their efforts and commitment. Congratulations and thank you to this year's award recipients, who are listed below.

Outstanding Service Awards

John Goldsworthy – DIRD

In recognition of his outstanding contribution to Austrroads and its activities over many years; including his role in the development of the National Road Safety Strategy 2011-2020, oversight of implementation and performance monitoring for the strategy, leadership of the 'Making it Happen' theme group, and particularly for strong leadership during the development of the National Road Safety Action Plan 2015-2017.

Noel O'Callaghan – DPTI SA

In recognition of his outstanding contribution to Austrroads and its activities over a sustained period, particularly in the area of road design and his representation of Austrroads in both national and international forums.

Steve Clark – DPTI SA

In recognition of his outstanding contribution to Austrroads through the technical leadership of projects, participation of the Traffic Management Working Group and representation on Standards Committees.

Special Commendation Award

Rob Grove – ex MR WA

In recognition of his outstanding contribution to Austrroads and its activities over a sustained period, particularly in the area of road design.

Achievement Awards

Jose Arredondo – NTC

In recognition of his successful project management and delivery of two Freight Program projects, FS1805: Quantification of Benefits of High Productivity Vehicles and FS1804: PBS Level 3 and 4 Standards Review.

Simone Hewitt - VicRoads

In recognition of her role as technical advisor to lead the harmonisation of traffic management practice projects for Australia and New Zealand with the Traffic Management Working Group.

Wayne Harvey – VicRoads

In recognition of his project management and technical leadership of project NT1913: ITS Performance Benchmark.

Phil Stratton – DPTI SA

In recognition of his leadership and specialist knowledge in the development of an accredited training scheme for traffic control at worksites.

Jacqui Blake - NZTA

In recognition of her technical knowledge and project management for the improving accessibility with network operations planning project.

Gordon Farrelly – RMS NSW

In recognition of his project management for the techniques for signal management to improve network operations project.

Dave Landmark – MR WA

In recognition of his project management and technical knowledge in the review and updating of various parts of the Austroads Guide to Traffic Management.

Nerida Leal – DTMR QLD

In recognition of her management of a complex project for the Safety Program: SS1755 Options for rehabilitation in alcohol interlock programs.

Olivia Sherwood – DIRD

In recognition of her management of an important project for the Safety Program: SS1937 Assistance with the 2014 National Road Safety Strategy (NRSS) Review.

Colin Brodie – NZTA

In recognition of his ongoing contributions to the Safety Task Force and management of an important project for the Safety Program: ST1888 Strategic Review of the Austroads Guide to Road Safety.

Claire Thompson – MRWA

In recognition of her management of a complex project for the Safety Program: SS1753 Review of BAC Limits in Australia and New Zealand.

International Activities

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.

Other Reports

Austroads also considered reports from:

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

Future Meetings

The next meeting will be held on Thursday 29 October 2015 in Brisbane Queensland.