

Communiqué



Austroads Board Meetings No. 26 and 27

6 April 2017 | Hobart

4 May 2017 | Teleconference

The Austroads Board met on 6 April 2017 in Hobart Tasmania. In Neil Scales' absence, Shane Gregory General Manager, State Roads, Department of State Growth Tasmania, chaired the meeting.

A follow-on teleconference was convened on 4 May 2017. Neil Scales, Director General, Queensland Department of Transport and Main Roads, chaired the meeting.

Strategic Projects

An update on the high priority work streams identified by the Board is provided below.

- **Data Harmonisation**

The Board commended the recent work being undertaken with this project and the sensible and structured approach to implementation that has been proposed.

The Austroads Data Standard is being used in tool, Meta-Connect, developed by New Zealand Transport Agency (NZTA), and partner organisations. Meta-Connect is being trialled in data management activities related to the Christchurch reconstruction effort. Initial analysis has suggested that Meta-Connect has the capacity to support the adoption, use and version control of the Standard.

The board supported the establishment of a Data Standard Strategy Committee, supported by a technical working group.

- **Guide to Bridge Technology Review**

A review of the *Guide to Bridge Technology* is now nearing completion. The aim of the review is to ensure the Guide remains up-to-date and relevant. Both the related Australian Standard AS 5100 and the New Zealand Bridge Manual have also been undergoing revision. The revised AS 5100 was published on 31 March 2017.

- **Safety at Road Worksites**

Safety at road worksites is a strategically important issue for Austroads member agencies and industry. The project comprises four modules of work: the development of a Guide to Temporary Traffic Management Practice (GTTMP); the redevelopment and adoption of nationally harmonised Traffic Controller Training; investigation into a Registration Scheme for Traffic Controllers; and the continued progression by industry of a National Pre-Qualification Scheme.

Standards Australia has agreed that the new GTTMP will replace the existing guidance within AS1742.3 (Manual of uniform traffic control devices Part 3: Traffic control for works on roads). Consequently, some parts of the new guide are high priority and will be developed and published in parallel to the update of AS1742.3.

- **Community Service Obligations (CSOs) for Roads**

This project is nearing completion with a final report provided to Board members for endorsement to publish in mid-April 2017. The Freight Task Force meeting in June 2017 will explore possible next steps to build on this foundational work.

- **Key Interventions to Reduce Road Trauma - Forecasting Potential Road Safety Gains**

This project was endorsed as a strategic priority project in October 2016. The work will feed directly in to the National Road Safety Action Plan 2018-2020 and inform jurisdictional Safety Action Plans. The report is forecast for completion in June which aligns with milestones for input to the NRSS Action Plan 2018-2020.

- **Road Cross Section Design for Road Stereotypes (including Network Safety Plans) and a Safe System**

A key output of the project will be performance based road design standards which will be a world first. The project is a joint Road Design and Safety Task Force project and will incorporate local government and public consultations.

Research Work Program

There are no projects over 12 months late and the number of late projects is steadily decreasing. The status of the 2016-17 work program as at 16 March 2017 is summarised in the table below.

	Assets	Network	Safety	Connected and Automated Vehicles	Other / NEVDIS / ATAP	Total
Complete	11	17	4	1	-	33
Cancelled / Abandoned	-	-	1	-	-	1
Deferred	-	-	-	-	-	-
Active	40	21	23	6	-	90
Total approved	51	38	28	7	-	124

Proposed 2017-18 Work Programs

Subject to final approval at the July 2017 Board meeting, the proposed streams of work for the Assets, Safety, Network and CAV Programs were endorsed. The proposed 2017-18 work programs have been published in the [Austroads Operational Plan](#).

The Board endorsed the:

- immediate commencement of the scoping component of Safety project SSP6081: Mitigating the Growing Drug and Distraction Driving Risks
- revised project proposal for CSP6052: Australia and New Zealand Roads Capability Analysis 2017-2027
- redevelopment of the Austroads websites to provide ease of access to project outputs and other Austroads information including providing the Austroads Guides as html pages.

Australian Transport Assessment and Planning (ATAP) Guidelines

The Board endorsed funding in 2017-18 and 2018-19 to complete a willingness-to-pay study for values of travel time savings, reliability and safety. The project will be coordinated by the ATAP Steering Committee. The research will produce up-to-date, soundly-based parameters for use in cost-benefit analyses of road initiatives as well as in the strategic four-step urban traffic models that make traffic forecasts, including toll road patronage forecasts. The project aligns with actions in the National Road Safety Strategy 2011-2020 and National Road Safety Action Plan 2015-2017.

National Exchange of Vehicle and Driver Information System (NEVDIS)

NEVDIS continues to perform strongly and the Austroads National Office staff have been working closely with the Commonwealth, NHVR and jurisdictions in planning for the implementation of a National Heavy Vehicle Registration System.

Next Austroads Meetings

The next Austroads Board meeting will be held on Thursday 6 July 2017 in Adelaide South Australia, preceded by a strategic review workshop on the afternoon of 5 July.