

Communiqué

Austroads Board Meeting No. 30

18 April 2018 | Sydney



The Austroads Board met on 18 April 2018 at Austroads National Office in Sydney and was chaired by Neil Scales, Director-General, Queensland Department of Transport and Main Roads. The meeting provided an excellent opportunity for Austroads staff to meet with the Board members over lunch.



Executive Committee

Following the retirement of Paul Gelston from DIPTI SA and the resignation of Tommy Parker from NZTA and Peter Todd from VicRoads, nominations were sought for the Executive Committee until the Board meeting of November 2018. The members of the Committee are:

- Neil Scales DTMR QLD
- Shane Gregory DoSG Tas
- Nick Koukoulas (Chief Executive)
- Alex Foulds DIRDAC
- Ken Kanofski RMS NSW
- Louise McCormick DIPL NT.

Strategic Projects

An update on the strategic priority projects identified by the Board is provided below.

- **Data Harmonisation** | Version 2 of the Data Standard has been finalised for publication. Local government pilots, undertaken in partnership with the Municipal Association of Victoria, have commenced in the Gippsland region. The pilots are enabling a real-world testing of the priority data sets. Pilots supported by NZTA are also underway in New Zealand trialling the use of the Meta-Connect tool for delivery of the Standard.

- **National Technical Specifications** | A staged work plan for this project has been developed. Harmonising technical specifications will also require harmonisation of contracts and test methods which may include general terms and conditions of contracts, pavement marking, fabrication of steelwork, and signage in tunnels.
- **Safety at Road Worksites** | The output of this project will be renamed *Code of Practice for Temporary Traffic Management* to more accurately reflect the role of the publication. A proposed implementation timeframe of 12 months was endorsed noting that the responsibility for implementation rests with individual jurisdictions.
- **Congestion Management and Network Operations Opportunities** | This project will undertake multiple streams of research to support road agencies in the optimisation of their networks, manage congestion and improve the movement of people and goods. The work will build on the previous Austroads Congestion and Reliability project and incorporate updates to relevant Austroads Guides.
- **Cross Section Design for Road Stereotypes and a Safe System** | The key output from this project will deliver a world-first performance-based road design standard. The project will support jurisdictions in the implementation of components of the National Road Safety Action Plan. The analysis tool coming out of this project will facilitate efficient planning for road safety treatments. Testing of the prototype will be undertaken with various groups. Presentations to local government in Victoria and Tasmania will kick off the roll out of the tool.
- **Australia and New Zealand Roads Capability Analysis 2017-2027** | This project, which focuses on the traditional and future skills required by road agencies, is on schedule. The final report, which will highlight key capability issues and possible solutions, is due to be completed in June.
- **Infrastructure Changes to Support Automated Vehicles** | This project considers the level of investment in public infrastructure including physical and digital infrastructure required to support the operation of connected and automated vehicles across key highways in Australia and New Zealand. A final report from this project is due in December. The next stage of the project will be a pilot survey of cellular coverage of the key network.
- **Austroads Online** | The new website is progressing well and is due to be delivered by the end of August. The site will include a publications library, Austroads Guides as hyperlinked html pages, detailed information about Austroads projects, and a series of subject areas dashboards. Stage 1 features include powerful search functionality, single login for access to publications (including individually bookmarked Guide content) and Task Force and project working spaces.

Research Work Program Overview

There are 110 projects approved in the 2017-18 work program, with 78 projects continuing from previous financial years and 32 new projects commencing in 2017-18.

The table below details the status of the Austroads projects as at 15 March 2018.

Status	Assets	Connected & Automated Vehicles	Network	Safety	Other	Total
Complete	12	2	8	9	-	31
Cancelled / Abandoned	-	-	-	-	-	-
Deferred	-	-	-	-	-	-
Active	32	7	16	22	2	79
Total approved	44	9	24	31	2	110

National Exchange of Vehicle and Driver Information System (NEVDIS)

NEVDIS collects, collates and distributes vehicle, licence, and registration data on behalf of the eight State and Territory road authorities and the Australian Criminal Intelligence Commission. It services 135 million+ transactions each year. Major projects are progressing well including the:

- National Heavy Vehicle Registration System project being undertaken with TIC endorsement to support the National Heavy Vehicle Regulator.
- NEVDIS Infrastructure and Application Re-platform which is approaching user acceptance testing.
- NEVDIS Application Rewrite which is responding to customer demands for increased flexibility and data portability.

Events

The Australasian bid to host the World Road Congress in Sydney in 2023 is progressing well. Austroads has partnered with Roads and Maritime Services NSW to host the bid. This event is an opportunity to showcase ground-breaking innovation and play an active role in shaping the future of our global community.

The 40th Australasian Transport Research Forum will be held in Darwin from 30 October to 1 November 2018. The Forum brings together transport researchers, policymakers, advisors and practitioners from a range of disciplines to share and build upon the latest research and thinking in the transport sector.

Next Austroads Meetings

The next Austroads Board meeting will be held on Thursday 5 July 2018 in Darwin, Northern Territory.