

Communiqué



Austroads AGM and Board Meeting No. 42 28 October 2021 | Teleconference

The Austroads Board met on 28 October via teleconference. The meeting was chaired by Neil Scales, Director-General, Queensland Department of Transport and Main Roads.

Annual General Meeting

The minutes of the Annual General Meeting 2020 were confirmed. The Report of the Directors, the Annual Financial Report and the Auditors Report for the year ended 30 June 2021 were approved.

Board Meeting

The Chair and Board members recognised the difficult environment caused by the COVID-19 pandemic and acknowledged the ongoing good performance of Austroads staff given the operational challenges.

Work Program 2021-22

The table below details the status of the 2021-22 work program projects as at 30 September 2021.

Status	Transport Infrastructure	Future Vehicles + Technology	Transport Network Operations	Safety + Design	Total
Complete	2	1	0	1	4
Active	27	7	11	17	62
Total approved	29	8	11	18	66

Priority Projects

Road Asset Data Standard

Austroads will develop a portal to pilot with road managers in 2022. The Board acknowledged the benefits of the Austroads Road Asset Data Standard which include improving asset management by road managers, providing consistent data essential to a range of potential reforms, and providing data for researchers and regulators, such as the NHVR. In recognition of the project's importance the Board agreed to establish a sub-committee to steer the project.

Harmonisation of Temporary Traffic Management Practice

The Board noted the importance to the safety of road workers that they are properly and consistently trained for traffic management. The Board noted the planned implementation pathway for the project, which will require a significant commitment and effort from Austroads and its members.

Harmonisation of Funding for Class 1 and 2 Heavy Vehicles Permit Application Assessments

Austroads is undertaking a nationwide review of the funding mechanisms for Class 1 and 2 heavy vehicles permit application assessments to identify options for national harmonisation. The review of current practice has been completed. At the next meeting the Board will consider the results of an assessment of options for pricing heavy vehicle access permit requests.

Review of the National Heavy Vehicle Driver Competency Framework: Stage 3

This project aims to develop an exemplar licensing framework for national implementation. The project is due for completion in 2022. The Board agreed to establish a project focussing on implementing the framework.

International

The Board noted the appointment of Geoff Allan as one PIARC's (The World Road Association) three Vice Presidents and meetings between Austroads, the Commonwealth and the US Federal Highways Administration (FHWA) on the potential to collaborate on sustainability and environmental matters (including life cycle analysis and environmental performance declarations).

Austroads National Office

Joe Attanasio has been appointed the new Chief Data and Technology Officer. Joe will start on 9 November

Next Austroads Meeting

The next meeting will be held Thursday 3 February 2022.