

Communiqué



Austroads Board Meeting No. 34 4 July 2019 | Perth

The Austroads Board met on 4 July 2019 in Perth, Western Australia and was chaired by Neil Scales, Director-General, Queensland Department of Transport and Main Roads.

Membership of Austroads Ltd

- Roads and Maritime Services NSW has resigned its membership from Austroads Ltd, effective from 30 June 2019.
- A properly constituted application for membership from Transport for NSW was approved. The membership of Transport for NSW to Austroads Ltd will be recorded as an addendum to the Austroads Ltd Constitution.

Strategic Projects

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

- **Data Harmonisation** | The Road Asset Data Standard is in an implementation phase. Local government pilots will allow the councils to test the use of the data in a range of different geographies, road conditions and local government types. Testing to date includes pilots in Victoria (late 2018), NSW and Queensland (February-March 2019) and Western Australia and Northern Territory (April-May 2019). The project will also examine how the data standard can be incorporated into existing software and standards.
- **Austroads Technical Specifications** | The development of a number of specifications and test methods is progressing well. An advisory group made up of representatives from each jurisdiction, possibly Chief Engineers, is to be formed to lead the next stage of this project. Terms of Reference for the Group will be developed and provided to the Board for endorsement.
- **Safety at Road Worksites** | Work continues to progress well. The project is made up of a number of modules including an 11 part guideline to temporary traffic management. The name of the publication will be changed from a Code of Practice to a Guide or Guideline.
- **Congestion Management and Network Operations Opportunities** | This project is undertaking multiple streams of research to support road agencies in the optimisation of their networks, manage congestion and improve the movement of people and goods. Outputs will include: the application of artificial intelligence and machine learning to network operations; Mobility as a Service opportunities; case studies; improved guidance for the management of smart motorways; a digital summary of Austroads congestion and network operations research and publications; and updates to the Austroads Guides. All reports are well advanced and nearing completion.
- **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.** QLD DTMR and Salisbury City Council are trialling the methodology. A train-the-trainer model has been confirmed to roll-out this new method to all road authorities (particularly local government) in the latter half of the 2019 calendar year to meet National Road Safety Action Plan commitments of 2020.
- **Infrastructure Changes to Support Automated Vehicles** | This project is investigating the investment required in physical and digital infrastructure to support the operation of connected and automated vehicles across key highways in Australia and New Zealand. Draft reports have been completed for all five project modules and are currently being finalised.

- **Austroads Online** | The new Austroads website was launched on 3 September 2018. The new website combines the Austroads corporate website and publications website into a single site and provides the Austroads Guides as an online resource. Between March and May the site was visited more than 163,000 times. In that time the Guides online were viewed 2,500 times and more than 59,000 publications were downloaded. More than 28,000 people have now established an account on the site.

Research Work Program

2018-19 Work Program Overview

There were 98 projects approved in the 2018-19 work program, with 70 projects continuing from previous financial years and 28 new projects commencing in 2018-19. Following the November 2018 and April 2019 Board meetings a further six projects were accelerated into the work program bringing the total number of projects to 104. The table below details the status of the Austroads projects as at 31 May 2019.

Status	Assets	Connected & Automated Vehicles	Network	Safety	Other	Total
Complete	9	3	7	12	1	32
Cancelled / Abandoned	-	-	-	-	-	-
Deferred	-	-	-	-	-	-
Active	27	6	15	23	1	72
Total approved	36	9	22	35	2	104

2019-20 – Forward Work Program

The Board approved the following new projects for 2019-20.

Project number	Project title
Assets	
AAM6200	Investment prioritisation
ASP6227	Road asset data standard implementation - Stage IV
ABT6196	Design guidelines for the delivery of large cantilever and gantry structures
ABT6203	Structural and real-time bridge health monitoring
APT6123	National harmonisation of test methods used in performance specifications
APT6204	Improved General Mechanistic Method (GMP) for pavement rehabilitation
APT6213	Sustainable test for measuring rutting performance of binders in asphalt
APD6174	Optimising project delivery performance
ART6137	Use of perceptual countermeasure treatments to reduce crash risks in tunnels
ART6151	Revision of Austroads Guide to Road Tunnels – Part 2: Planning, Design and Commissioning
AAM6146	Next generation asset data collection
Connected & Automated Vehicles	
CAV6216	Road authority data (for) connected and automated vehicles - RADCAV
Network	
NTM6186	Improved guidance on interrupted traffic flow theory
NTM6187	Effectiveness and implementation of raised safety platform
NTM6189	Passing lane investigation: Design, placement and safety
NTM6195	Trip generation rates for Australia and New Zealand

Project number	Project title
NTM6205	Opportunities to build capability in traffic management
NEF6184	Identification of best practice for professional and sustainable road transport operations in Australia and New Zealand
NEF6188	Review of mass limits for class 1 load carrying and special purpose restricted access vehicles
NEF6209	Decision making framework and tools for freight access decisions
NEF6210	Best practice approaches to freight and communities
NEG6185	Innovation and best practice in performance measurement and transport information
NEG6206	Network operation planning - case studies and capability building
NEG6207	Guidance to support its decision making on motorways, freeways and arterials
NEG6208	Guidance and readability criteria for traffic sign recognition (TSR) systems reading electronic signs
NTM6238	Improved traffic management guidance – Freeway capacity analysis and on road public transport priority
NEF6237	Investigation of pavement assessment methodologies for PBS access
Safety	
SRD6219	Inclusion of recent road safety research in the Guide to Road Design – Phase 2
SRD6220	Multiple small amendments to the Guide to Road Design for delivery efficiency and to accelerate guidance to practitioners
SRD6229	Update of Guide to Road Design Part 5: Drainage - General And Hydrology Considerations (Australian Rainfall And Runoff Alignment)
SAG6221	Revision of the Guide to Road Safety - Part 6A: Implementation of Road Safety Audits in the context of the new Part 6
SAG6222	Motorcycle rider perceptive countermeasures

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. The system services 200 million+ transactions each year.

NEVDIS continues to support Safety Recall activities and the increased focus to resolve faulty Takata Airbag inflators. NEVDIS has been conducting Safety Recall data extracts for Takata Airbag related recalls at no charge from July 2017 – December 2020. To date Registered Operator details have been extracted against some 22million Vehicle Identification Numbers.

Next Austroads Meeting

The next Austroads Board meeting will be held on Thursday 7 November 2019 in Canberra, Australian Capital Territory.