



Regional Road Group Report

February 2024

Roads

Local Government Transport and Roads Research and Innovation Program (LGTRRIP)

Four new projects have been initiated as part of the Local Government Transport and Roads Research and Innovation Program:

1. Use of crumbed rubber modified bitumen and reclaimed asphalt (RAP) in asphalt applications,
2. Use of crumbed rubber modified bitumen in sprayed seal applications,
3. Design and construction guidance for the use of crushed recycled concrete, and
4. A catalogue of typical pavement structures for local roads.

This program of work builds on the [projects completed](#) in 2023.

Condition Assessment of Roads of Regional Significance

Industry proposals were assessed and a consultant appointed to complete a road condition assessment for all *Roads of Regional Significance* in the South West region of WA (approximately 2,100km). The project commenced in January 2024 with the bulk of the survey work to be performed between February and April 2024.

Road Rail Interface Agreements

Rail Interface Agreements are a requirement under the *Rail Safety National Law (WA) Act 2015*. A model *pro forma* agreement between Local Governments and Arc Infrastructure is nearing the end of negotiations and should be available for Local Government review and action soon. This agreement updates various elements of the existing agreements, particularly adding clarification on types of works and the responsibilities of both parties. As soon as this is complete, WALGA will liaise with each affected Local Government to provide advice around the new agreement.

Funding

State Road Funds to Local Government Agreement 2023/24 – 2027/28

Working groups have been established to progress implementation of the commitments made in the agreement in relation to:

1. Increasing application of the Safe System approach to the local road network,
2. Employment of Aboriginal people, and
3. Use of recycled materials in road construction and maintenance.

Each of these groups has held at least one meeting during the quarter.

Roads to Recovery and other Federal Funding Programs

Working with ALGA and the State Associations, WALGA engaged with the Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development, Communications and the Arts concerning the design and guidelines for key Australian Government infrastructure funding programs, Roads to Recovery, Black Spot and the Safer Local Roads & Infrastructure Program. WA Local Governments are generally supportive of the administrative arrangements. The competitive funding approach for the smaller programs raises equity concerns, as a reasonable level of resources is required to develop strong project proposals.

Multi-Criteria Assessment (MCA) Model Revisions

Work continues to harmonise the MCA models used by Regional Road Groups to prioritise project proposals for funding under the Road Project Grant funding pool. The process has now commenced in seven of the nine regions in regional WA. The proposed changes to the MCA models reflect the new focus areas of the State Roads Funds to Local Governments Agreement, while still allowing for flexibility to recognise the significant differences between regions.

Business Case for Safety Improvement to High Speed Sealed Local Government Roads

Meetings were held with the Minister for Road Safety / Minister Assisting the Minister for Transport and senior government officers concerning the proposed investment by Federal and State Governments to improve the level of safety provided to users of high speed, sealed Local Government roads in peri-urban and rural areas. The Association is continuing to work in partnership with the RAC to highlight the importance of this investment.

Road Safety

Road Safety Council Update

The Road Safety Council Communiques highlight the key discussions and considerations of the Council meetings. View the Communiques via the following links:

[Meeting held 16 November 2023](#)

[Meeting held 8 December 2023](#)

RoadWise Councils

WALGA's RoadWise Councils initiative is a fresh approach aimed at engaging and supporting Local Governments to adopt and apply policies and practices that effectively and sustainably lead to better road safety outcomes for WA communities.

Since invitations to participate commenced in August 2023, fifty-four (54) Local Governments have registered as a RoadWise Council. The majority (70%) registered with a resolution of full Council and thirty percent via a Declaration signed by the Shire President/Mayor and the Chief Executive Officer.

Participating Local Governments are spread across the state with RoadWise Councils located in all ten Regional Road Group regions.

In terms of road safety activities, 37 or 71% of registered RoadWise Council have recorded the delivery of activity aligned with the RoadWise Council Framework in the first few months.