



# Regional Road Group Report

## November 2024

## Roads

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

A design and construction guideline for the use of crushed recycled concrete has been published and can be downloaded from the LGTRRIP website. Further guidelines for the use of crumbed rubber modified asphalts, sprayed seals, reclaimed asphalt pavement (RAP) and a catalogue of standard pavement profiles are scheduled for publication by the year end.

### Condition Assessment of Roads of Regional Significance

The condition assessment survey of significant roads in the Pilbara and Gascoyne regions has commenced with both survey and condition logging work underway. The condition survey work for the Kimberley region has been awarded and will commence in March/April 2025, following the wet season in the Kimberley region.

### 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. WALGA will begin a process to liaise with each relevant affected Local Government to provide advice around the new agreement.

### Update of User Guides for calculating the cost of road wear for defined freight tasks

Due to recent escalation in road construction costs, WALGA has initiated an update of the unit rates that are used to underpin the methodologies in the User Guides for calculating the cost of road wear for defined freight tasks on sealed and unsealed roads. NTRO have been appointed to update the guides and to compile an online calculator and the project is scheduled for completion in December 2024.

## Funding

### Achievements of the State Road Funds to Local Government Agreement

To provide foundational data to demonstrate the need for and value of State Government road funding, the Infrastructure Team has commenced a project to generate spatial data and provide a visual record of the projects completed on Local Government roads using the Road Project Grant funding component of the State Road Funds to Local Government Agreement.

### Multi-Criteria Assessment (MCA) Model Revisions

The WALGA Infrastructure Team is working with the Regional Road Groups to harmonise the MCA models used by Regional Road Groups to prioritise projects for Road Project Grant funding. 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.

## Transport

### Regional Freight Strategy

A new Regional Freight Strategy is being developed by the WA Department of Transport with WALGA represented on the project steering committee. Local Governments have provided valuable input through Zone meetings and workshops in regional centres. The draft strategy is expected to be completed in 2025.

### Bus Stop Infrastructure

A new Bus Stop Infrastructure Partnership Agreement for 2025 to 2029 has been negotiated with the Public Transport Authority after consultation with a range of Local Governments. The revised Agreement is now finalised for submission to the December State Council for endorsement.

### Active/Green Transport Discussion Paper

Following comprehensive consultations with Local Governments WALGA now has sufficient data to enable the structured development of a draft discussion paper on Active Transport gaps and needs. While still in progress, this paper will address biking, walking, and micromobility issues across WA, with ongoing consultations ensuring it reflects perspectives from both metropolitan and regional areas.

## Asset Management

### Road Assets and Expenditure Report Update Project

Tango IT has completed a report detailing the current processes used to develop the RAE Report. The consultant is preparing a final report to identify options for improvement in data collection, assessment and reporting as well as an RFX document for use by WALGA to go to market to undertake the suggested improvement works.

## Road Safety

### Road Safety Council Update

Section 13 of the *Road Safety Council Act 2002* requires the Road Safety Council to provide the Minister with a report to be tabled in Parliament as soon as practicable after 1 July each year.

The 2023-24 annual report on the activities of the Road Safety Council was tabled in the house of the Legislative Assembly on 16 October 2024

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Meetings of the Road Safety Council were held in August and October to consider mid-year review adjustments and new projects for funding from the Road Trauma Trust Account, including two projects to support safety improvements on local roads. Recommendations will be made to the Minister responsible for road safety in the lead up to the State Budget process. The Road Safety Council has also undertaken work to identify a new set of priorities to focus road safety efforts.

### Road Safety Roundtable

In response to growing concerns about the trend in road trauma the Premier convened a roundtable of invited road safety experts and advocates, including Nick Sloan WALGA CEO, on 2 September.

The WA Government has since announced several initiatives, including:

- A new 'hard-hitting' campaign "Speed Shatters Your Excuses";
- Red P-Plate passenger restrictions allowing only one passenger in the car with limited exemptions;
- The expansion of the Safe Driver Reward Program to incentivise safe driving;
- A safe driving course pilot program for learner drivers under 25 years of age;
- The expansion of the P.A.R.T.Y. injury prevention program to enable regional students to understand the traumatic consequences of road crashes and make safer choices; and
- A review of existing learner and provisional driver schemes, and skills and training requirements for motorcycle and heavy vehicles licences.

Further, the Government has committed \$32.5 million for regional road safety, including \$20 million to treat run-off-road crashes on selected sealed Local Government roads.

### **RoadWise Councils**

As of 1 November 2024, there were seventy-four (74) Local Governments registered as a RoadWise Council. Fifty-three or 72% registered with a Resolution of Council and twenty-one or 28% via a Declaration. There is a spread of RoadWise Councils across all ten Regional Road Group regions. In terms of road safety activity, 86% (64) of registered RoadWise Councils recorded road safety activity between July and September 2024.

### **RoadWise Recognised**

The RoadWise Recognised Advisory Committee met in August 2024. Points, which signify road safety actions undertaken, were allocated to 52 RoadWise Councils. The Points that were allocated reflected actions delivered across the different areas of the [RoadWise Framework](#). This then converted to Ribbons which were awarded in recognition of a holistic approach to road safety across governance, management, and operations. In this way, the allocation of Points and Ribbons is designed to encourage local road safety toward better and ultimately best practice.