

STATE ROAD FUNDS TO LOCAL GOVERNMENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE (SAC)

MINUTES – Tuesday 29th April 2025. (Meeting 01/2025)

Held at MRWA

SAC Members Present:

Mr J Erceg (JE)	MRWA (Chair)
Mr D Snook (DS)	MRWA
Mr M Cammack (MC)	MRWA
Mr D Morgan (DM)	MRWA
Cr K Chappel (KC)	WALGA
Mr N Sloan (NS)	WALGA
President C Antonio (CA)	WALGA
Mayor Deb Hamblin (MH)	WALGA
Mr D MacLennan (DMS)	WALGA

Others in Attendance:

Mr I Duncan (ID)	WALGA
Mr S Purdy (SP)	IPWEA
Ms R Lewis (RL)	MRWA (Secretariat)
Mr K Pethick (KP)	MRWA

1. WELCOME AND APOLOGIES

Chair opened the meeting at 10:05am with an Acknowledgement of Country and welcomed SAC members.

2. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS – 10th December 2024.

The draft minutes of the Meeting held on Tuesday, 10th December 2024 as attached to the agenda, were accepted as a true record of proceedings.

BUSINESS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MEETINGS

2.2 Summary of Outstanding Actions

Reference Item No/Officer	Action Required / Taken / Agenda Items
Vanguards 2.2 MC	Complete: Paper provided in the agenda. Action: MC to explore options with the Road Safety branch to create a shorter course for elected members, perhaps including a common core with the existing Vanguards program which would be targeted to officers.
RRG 2.2 ID	Ongoing Action: ID to draft a general letter to the Regional Road Group Chairs to inform them of the letters going to Local Government regarding good performance and the areas for improvement in 2023-24.
Financial Report 4.1 MC	Ongoing: Maurice provided an update noting that a review of current safety themes in the Metro area was conducted with further work ongoing to advance potential solutions/improvements. Action: MC to explore the options for a Mass Action Treatment within the Metropolitan area.
Agreement Commitments / Aboriginal Employment. 5.5 DS	Ongoing: Paper provided in the agenda under 5.4 - Aboriginal Employment. Action: DS to provide SAC members with a progress report on the Aboriginal Employment Working Group.
Safer Country Local Roads Program 6.5 MC	Complete: Paper provided in the agenda. Action: MC to provide an update at the next SAC meeting on the Safer Country Local Roads Program development.
Mine Waste Rock 6.5 MC & ID	Complete. Meeting took place noting that the GVROC group would, at this time, not be taking the matter further. Action: MC & ID to meet with Steve Beyer regarding the feedback from the SAC and develop options for further consideration.

Transport sustainability hub Paper - Paper provided in the agenda – Noted.

3.CORRESPONDENCE

The latest Correspondence to the Gascoyne Regional Road Group and the response to Gascoyne Regional Road Group attached.

SAC Noted the correspondence

4.FINANCIAL REPORTS - 2024-25

4.1 Expenditure Profile/Sub Programs

SAC noted the report on expenditure for the period ending 31st March 2025.

MC provided a summary of the expenditure for the 2024-25 Program to date.

2024-25 Budget	\$345M
YTD Expenditure	\$198M
Year-end forecast	\$57M (Under Expenditure)

Road Project Grants has budget of \$163M (including re-programmed funds from 2023-24) with \$82M claimed YTD.

Metropolitan has a budget of \$62.7M, for Road Project Grants with a Year-end forecast of a \$36M under acquittal. This would result in WA Treasury having to approve the funds being carried over to 2025-26.

Action: KP, ID, SP to meet to discuss the carry over and a range of options to reduce the high level of under expenditure in the Metropolitan area with the understanding that little is likely to be possible for this financial year.

Pilbara are making positive progress from the previous year and forecasting to deliver their \$9.9M Road Project Grants program which includes \$3.5M carry over from 2023-24.

Mid-West & Gascoyne are both on track to spend their Road Project Grants pool by the end of 2024-25.

State Black Spot has a budget of \$24.3M and is forecasting a \$6.3M under delivery this financial year. Given that current claims to date total only \$6.8m, the result may be a greater required carryover than currently forecast.,.

Remote Access Roads are forecasting to spend all their budget in 2024-25 compared to this time last year when we had an under-delivery forecast of \$1.7M.

Traffic Management, Signs and Pavement Markings are currently forecasting an under delivery. Given current expenditure of 60% compared with prior year delivery, this seems pessimistic.

Both Bridge Works and Bridge Inspections are forecasting a significant under delivery. This has been a focus over the last twelve months. Process improvements have been put in place but are expected to take two years to have a significant effect. For 2024-25 deliverable works are being targeted.

State Initiatives has a budget of \$47M and forecasting to spend \$42M of the budget expecting a \$4.9M carry over. This would be an improved result over both previous two years.

4.2 Australian Government Program (Black Spot)

MC Provided a summary of the expenditures for the program to date.

SAC Noted the report on the Summary of the Australian Government Black Spot Program.

5. GENERAL REPORTS

5.1 WALGA Local Roads Program Manager

ID commented on the report provided.

Noting that issues with Western Power, DWER (Dept. of Water and Environmental Regulation) and ATCO Gas continued. MRWA noted that changes had been made within the Traffic Signals Approval team to review the process, identify and respond to bottlenecks.

SAC noted the report.

5.2 MINDER

ID commented briefly on the report provided.

Substantial progress has been made on the Road Rail Interface Agreement with Arc Infrastructure and a pro-forma agreement is soon to be circulated for comment.

There was discussion on the Regional Road Safety Program – Local Roads and how WALGA and the RAC are continuing to promote the program to the Federal Government.

SAC noted the report.

5.3 Regional Road Group Report

ID commented briefly on the report provided.

SAC noted the report.

5.4 Agreement Commitments

Aboriginal Employment Working Group

The report, as attached to the agenda, noted that progress had not been as developed as expected by this time. DS reiterated the importance of a solid pilot program to ensure that the data capture was both appropriate and achievable by LGAs. It would also help to educate on the ability to 'roll-out' to all LGAs beyond the pilot group.

Whilst the difficulties of this item were acknowledged, it was also noted that this was a focus area of the Agreement. The first output noted in the Agreement was to establish a system/process for monitoring and reporting Aboriginal Employment within each LGA.

Action Item: – Des Snook to meet with Nick Sloan and Ian Duncan to help progress outcomes of the Aboriginal Employment working Group.

Road Safety

DM commented briefly on the report.

Three recommendations were listed in the report. It was agreed that no decisions should be made on these until SAC has been provided with the Measures/Elements/matrix/report and time to evaluate.

Action Item: - DM to present a worked example of the report at the next SAC meeting.

Recycled Material

DM commented briefly on the report.

First round of data capture has been completed and is currently being analysed.

5.5 Roads 2040 Additional Roads

Discussion was had on the importance of ROADS 2040 and that the focus should be on regionally significant roads. It was noted that nearing the end of this Agreement's term would be the next opportune time to look at the criteria of assessment of roads or this listing.

SAC endorsed the submission for the 18 roads nominated to be added to the ROADS 2040 listing.

6. GENERAL BUSINESS

6.1 Roads Program 2025-26 (Indicative)

There was a general discussion around the funding being provided under the Agreement. It was noted that all funding categories had increased compared to the 2024-25 initial starting point. It was further noted that for 2024-25 both categories of Direct Grants and State Initiatives were 'artificially' increased due to a late revision on Motor Vehicle Licence Fee revenue collections.

The SAC Committee endorsed the 2025-26 Local Roads Program with the below recommendations.

Recommendations

Endorse the 2025-26 State Road Funds to Local Government Agreement Program, as summarised above.

Move \$500,000 from MRWA Regional Road Group Support to Traffic Management, Signs and Pavement Markings.

For the 2026-27 program and beyond - Decrease the percentage for the Regional Road Group Support from (1%) to (0.9%).

For the 2026-27 program and beyond - Increase the percentage for Traffic Management, Signs and Pavement Markings from (13%) to (13.01%).

Action: Provided that no changes are made during the final deliberations of the State Government's 2025-26 State Budget, RL to send confirmation to each RRG of the SRFLGA 2025-26 program

6.2 Future State Roads Reviewing – For noting

DS commented briefly on the report.

6.3 Classifications & Proclamations – For noting

6.4 Heavy Vehicle Services – For noting.

6.5 Roundtable/Other.

- Local Government Transport and Roads Research and Innovation Program (LGTRRIP) – for Noting.
- Gascoyne Regional Road Group Policy and Procedures update – was noted
- CA raised the issue that local governments are already struggling to manage their bridge works and in some regions have been advised that Main Roads is no longer able to provide the same level of support for smaller projects.

Action: DS to provide a report on the current bridge support arrangements within the different regions at the next SAC meeting.

7.NEXT MEETING

Tuesday 26th August 2025 at WALGA.

8.MEETING CLOSE

There being no further business the meeting closed at 12:00pm.

APPENDIX A

Action List

Reference Item No/Officer	Action Required / Taken / Agenda Items
4.1 Metropolitan RRG Legacy projects not yet finalised	Action Item: 29 April 2025 KP, ID, SP to create a small working group to discuss options to further reduce the level of carryover requests from the Metropolitan RRG.
5.4 Agreement Commitments (Aboriginal Employment)	Action Item: 29 April 2025 – DS to work with NS and ID to progress work on the focus area of Aboriginal Employment.
5.4 Agreement Commitments (Road Safety)	Action Item: 29 April 2025 - DM to present the Road Safety Working group's report and detail the recommended Road Safety Management System at the next SAC Meeting.
6.1 Roads Program 2025-26 (Indicative)	Action: 29 April 2025 - RL to advise RRG's on the 2025-26 State Budget outcomes (on the SRFLGA p's 2025-26 program).
6.5 Roundtable/Other	Action: 29 April 2025 - DS to provide a report on the current bridge support arrangements within the different regions.