

STATE ROAD FUNDS TO LOCAL GOVERNMENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE (SAC)

MINUTES – Tuesday, 2 December 2025

Meeting 03/2025

Held at Main Roads Western Australia (MRWA)

1. ATTENDANCE

SAC Members Present

- **President C Antonio (CA)** – WALGA
- **Mr M Andrews (MA)** – MRWA
- **Mr M Cammack (MC)** – MRWA
- **Cr K Chappel (KC)** – WALGA
- **Mr J Erceg (JE)** – MRWA (Chair)
- **Mr D Morgan (DM)** – MRWA
- **Mr N Sloan (NS)** – WALGA
- **Mr D MacLennan (DMC)** - WALGA

Others in Attendance

- **Mr M Bondietti (MB)** – WALGA
- **Ms R Lewis (RL)** – MRWA – (Secretariat)
- **Mr K Pethick (KP)** – MRWA
- **Mr S Purdy (SP)** - IPWEA

Apologies

- **Mr D Snook (DS)** – MRWA
- **Mr I Duncan (ID)** - WALGA

2. WELCOME AND APOLOGIES

The Chair opened the meeting at 10:05am and offered an Acknowledgement of Country.

Main Roads Acknowledge the traditional custodians throughout Western Australia and their continuing connect to the land, waters and their community. We pay our respects to all members of the Aboriginal communities and their cultures: and to Elders both past and present.

It was noted that Cr Deb Hamblin is no longer a member of SAC. The Committee expressed its appreciation for her contribution and thanked her for her service and commitment during her time on the SAC.

3. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

The draft minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday, 3 September 2025, were accepted as a true and accurate record of proceedings.

BUSINESS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MEETINGS

2.2 Summary of Outstanding Actions

Reference	Item / Officer	Action Required	Action Taken
September 2025 – 3.1	Update to SRFLGA Procedures – RPG Funding (MB)	<p>SAC noted that the Goldfields Esperance RRG MCA process and funding distribution methodology was included in the Technical Working Group Terms of Reference whereas it should be integrated into the RRG policies and procedures.</p> <p>Given how the MCA procedures had been written up, additional guidance within the Agreement's procedures would be helpful to define acceptable parameters for all RRGs.</p> <p>MB to present recommendations on revised wording for the Agreement's procedures on the distribution of Road Project Grant Funding.</p>	Completed and attached for committee endorsement.
September 2025 – 4.1	Request for Additional Projects (RL)	<p>Given the expected carryover of the Metropolitan Regional Road Group, Road Project Grant Funding in the current year and past couple of years, SAC agreed to:</p> <p>1) Offer each Metropolitan RRG member the opportunity to propose additional Rehabilitation works that can be undertaken and completed during 2025-26.</p> <p>2) Through the Regional Road Group, invite Local Governments (other than the Metro and South West RRG members) to propose Road Project Grant or Commodity Route</p>	Complete. SAC endorsed the shovel ready projects out of session. The item is detailed in the minutes below.

		<p>program “shovel ready” projects for completion within the 2025-26 financial year and for which the LGA could provide a one third funding contribution.</p> <p>Engage with Regional Road Groups to submit shovel-ready projects by 30 September 2025.</p>	
September 2025 – 5.4	Agreement Commitments – Aboriginal Employment – Trial Communications (DS)	<p>MRWA has put together media materials that look to encourage more LGA participation in this program. A draft reporting spread sheet has been created and now requires extensive trialing.</p> <p>Provide summary report on Aboriginal employment trial outcomes and lessons learned to date (focusing on City of Swan and Shire of Northam) for discussion at the next SAC meeting.</p> <p>Communications exercise and data collection underway. Summary report required at next SAC meeting.</p>	<p>DS was listed as an apology. SAC agreed to carry this item over to the next meeting, noting that data collection is underway and will be presented at the next meeting.</p>
September 2025 – 5.4	Road Safety – Agreement Commitments – Communications Framework (DM)	<p>A new framework has been developed and endorsed for tracking local government engagement and policy maturity in road safety management, with annual reporting planned.</p> <p>SAC endorsed the below.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ data collection and monitoring approach outlined. ▪ annual reporting of compiled data to the SAC described; and <p>Develop and roll out the communications plan for LG implementation of the road safety engagement framework.</p>	<p>DM advised that the action item remains ongoing and will be carried over to the next meeting.</p>

Updates to Actions Arising**September 2025 – 3.1 - Update to SRFLGA Procedures – RPG Funding (MB)**

SAC noted that the updated State Road Funds to Local Government Procedures have been circulated to Local Governments via Regional Road Groups for feedback, with no responses received as of 2 December. SAC endorsed the draft Procedures, subject to amending the wording for caps to be consistent with that used for floors; an option not a requirement.

Action: RL to update the wording and implement the changes into the Procedures.

September 2025 – 4.1- Request for Additional Projects (RL)-Shovel Ready**Regional Shovel Ready Projects**

46 regional project proposals received with a grant value of \$25,147,873

27 Projects approved with a grant value of \$10,121,372

Metropolitan Rehabilitation Shovel Ready Projects

22 Projects proposals received with a grant value of \$5,150,599

21 Projects approved with a grant value of \$5,019,997

These additional projects will be funded from the Metropolitan Regional Road Groups RPG funding allocations over the following years. This will have the effect of reducing future MRRP Carryover requirements.

The recommended projects were approved out of session and Local Governments have been advised accordingly.

September 2025 – 4.1 - Agreement Commitments – Aboriginal Employment – Trial Communications (DS)

It was noted that the City of Swan had provided some data and that data was also to come from Northam.

Action Item: DS was listed as an apology. SAC agreed to carry this item over to the next meeting, noting that data collection is underway and will be presented at the next meeting.

4. FINANCIAL REPORTS

4.1 Expenditure Profile by Sub-Programs 2025–26

SAC noted the expenditure report for the period ending October 2025.

2025–26 Financial Year Summary

Total Budget: \$371 million

Year-to-Date Expenditure: \$131 million (35%)

Forecast Year end Position: \$33 million (under-expenditure)

Comparison to 2024–25 (Same Period)

2024–25 Budget: \$345 million

2024–25 Year-to-Date Expenditure: \$124 million (36%)

Key Observations

- Year-to-date expenditure is **\$7 million higher** than the same period in 2024–25.
- Due to the larger budget in 2025–26, the **percentage of expenditure is slightly lower** than last year.
- Overall, expenditure is considered **broadly in line with previous year**, with the proportional variance attributed to the increased total budget.
- The current expenditure position would indicate an improved/reduced carryover required at the end of 2025–26.

Direct Grants

All Shires have claimed their direct grants by the end of October 2025–26

Road Project Grants

2025–26 Budget: \$183 million

2025–26 Year-to-Date Expenditure (October): \$48 million (27% of budget)

Comparison to 2024–25:

2024–25 Budget: \$163 million

2024–25 Year-to-Date Expenditure (October): \$46 million

Expenditure levels are broadly consistent with the previous financial year, noting expenditure is proportionally marginally behind due to the larger 2025–26 budget.

Regional Expenditure Performance

a. Kimberley Region

2025–26 Budget: \$6 million

Year-to-Date Expenditure: \$2.3 million (40% of budget)

The Kimberley Region has claimed the first 40% for all 2025–26 projects, representing a positive start to the year following an underspend of \$1.9 million in 2024–25.

b. Metropolitan Region

2025–26 Budget: \$68 million

Year-to-Date Expenditure (October): \$10.9 million (16% of budget)

Projects are yet to claim their initial 40% Road Project Grant payment.

Discussion centered around the additional work being provided under this program with the intent to result in a reduced carryover requirement come the end of year.

Action item: KP to consult with the Metropolitan Region regarding the projects yet to claim their first 40% and consult with Reza to determine the appropriate next steps.

State Black Spot on Local Roads

2025–26 Program Summary

- Budget: \$30.3 million
- Year-to-Date Expenditure (October): \$3.1 million (10% of budget)

Comparison to 2024–25

- 2024–25 Budget: \$24 million
- 2024–25 Year-to-Date Expenditure (October): \$3.5 million

Expenditure year-to-date is \$0.4 million lower than the same period in the previous financial year.

SAC noted that Reza will place a greater focus on the Black Spot Program in the next financial year as part of his responsibilities as the WALGA Local Roads Program Manager.

Part of that focus will look at projects delayed due Community and stakeholder consultation and feedback after funding has been allocated to works.

Regional Expenditure Performance

Great Southern

- All four projects approved under the 2025–26 financial year are showing as currently Not Started.

- Three projects are expected to be completed by June 2026, with the remaining project scheduled for completion in the 2026–27 financial year.

South West Region

- Of the 11 projects, eight are not started, one is In Progress, and two are completed.
- Of the eight Not Started projects:
 - Two were approved in 2025–26 as Stage 1 projects; and
 - Six are in the design phase, with two anticipated to progress to construction.

Metropolitan Region

- Of the 51 projects, 14 were approved as Stage 1 projects and 15 as Stage 2 projects for 2025–26.
- Several projects have been granted extensions of time, primarily due to Western Power-related delays and internal resourcing constraints.
- Fourteen projects have not yet claimed their initial 40% payment.

Remote Access Roads

2025–26 Program Summary

- Budget: \$3.9 million
- Year-to-Date Expenditure (October): \$1.1 million (28% of budget)

Comparison to 2024–25

- 2024–25 Budget: \$5.8 million
- 2024–25 Year-to-Date Expenditure (October): \$1.7 million (29% of budget)
- The 2025–26 budget decreased by \$1.9 million (a 33% reduction) due to reduced carryover funding.

Overall Observation

- While the budget is lower in 2025–26, the proportion of expenditure is broadly consistent with last year.
- However, actual expenditure is lower than the same period in 2024–25.

Traffic Management, Signs and Pavement Markings.

2025–26 Program Summary

- Budget: \$43.3 million
- Year-to-Date Expenditure (October): \$11 million (25% of the budget)

Comparison to 2024–25

- 2024–25 Budget: \$37.2 million
- 2024–25 Year-to-Date Expenditure (October): \$9.2 million (25% of the budget)

Overall Observation

- Expenditure is tracking at the same pace as the previous financial year, with 25% spent by October in both years.

Bridge Works

2025–26 Program Summary

- Budget: \$13.3 million
- Year-to-Date Expenditure (October): \$1.9 million (14.3% of the budget)

Comparison to 2024–25

- 2024–25 Budget: \$17.4 million
- 2024–25 Year-to-Date Expenditure (October): \$1 million (5.7% of the budget)

Overall Observations

- Year-to-date expenditure has increased by \$0.9 million compared to the same period last year.
- The proportion of expenditure (14.3%) is higher than in 2024–25 (5.7%), indicating a faster spend rate, noting that the 2025–26 budget is smaller due to reduced carryover from the previous year.

Bridge Inspections

2025–26 Program Summary

- Budget: \$4.9 million
- Year-to-Date Expenditure (October): \$732

Comparison to 2024–25

- 2024–25 Budget: \$3.4 million
- 2024–25 Year-to-Date Expenditure (October): \$415

MC briefly commented that Bridge Inspections are currently behind schedule.

Action Item: DM to arrange an update regarding the increase in bridge inspections/Bridge Expenditure and the progress on increasing in-house bridge inspection capacity.

State Initiatives

2025–26 Program Summary

- Budget: \$45.9 million
- Year-to-Date Expenditure (October): \$21 million

Comparison to 2024–25

- 2024–25 Budget: \$47 million
- 2024–25 Year-to-Date Expenditure (October): \$18.1 million

4.2 Australian Government Program (Black Spot) 2025–26.

Expenditure Summary

- Total Expenditure (Periods 1–4): \$5.08 million (representing 17% of the approved budget, including carryovers, of \$29.73 million).
- Local Road Expenditure (Periods 1–4): \$4.59 million.
- State Road Expenditure (Periods 1–12): \$0.48 million.

Project Status Overview

- Total Current Projects: 77 (State and Local Roads combined)
- In Progress: 16 projects
- Completed: 2 projects

2025–26 Newly Approved Projects

A total of 34 new projects were approved for the 2025–26 AGBS Program across the following regions:

- GSR Region: 2 projects
- SWR Region: 2 projects
- GER Region: 4 projects
- Pilbara Region: 5 projects
- MWR Region: 2 projects
- Metropolitan Region: 19 projects

Metropolitan Region Observations

SAC noted that several Metropolitan Region projects have received extensions of time, primarily due to:

- Western Power-related delays
- Extended design review processes
- Procurement delays

4.3 Commodity Route Fund 2026–27.

SAC noted that the Commodity Route Technical Reference Group met on 19th November 2025 to review all project nominations and rankings. After following up on further information requests for several projects the group provided a recommended position, which is attached.

53 Projects Received and reviewed.

Recommendation

The SAC Committee endorsed the recommended 16 Commodity Route Fund projects, with a total value of \$4,624,927.

Goldfields Esperance – 2 Projects

Great Southern – 5 Projects

Metropolitan – 1 Project

South West – 4 Projects

Wheatbelt North – 3 Projects

Wheatbelt South – 1 Project

5. GENERAL REPORTS

5.1 WALGA Local Roads Program Manager

The committee noted the report.

- The Metropolitan and South West Regions Local Road Program Delivery Status Report was noted, including updates on unit rate reviews, boundary road management agreements, road improvement project assessments and project deliverability discussions with Local Governments.
- Stakeholder coordination activities were acknowledged, including progress with Western Power on streamlining asset relocation and street lighting processes. Workshops were held with MRWA on the Traffic Signals Approval Policy (with another workshop being held today). DWER's presentation on native vegetation clearing regulations in regional areas was noted, as was the Atco Gas project collaboration workshop.

5.2 MINDER

The December 2025 MINDER Report was noted, including updates on SAC implementation activities, procurement for the Road Assets and Expenditure (RAE) Project, the review of

the WALGA Road Visual Condition Assessment Manual, progress under the Regional Road Safety Program (Local Roads), development of Road Rail Interface Agreements, active transport and micromobility advocacy, and contributions to recent sector conferences.

MB noted that they are seeking a Policy Officer position to work within WALGA, which would provide support in relation to Asset Management.

5.3 Regional Road Group Report

The December 2025 Regional Road Groups Report was noted, with all ten Regional Road Groups having met during the reporting period and inductions provided for newly elected delegates. Key matters discussed included program delivery, development of the revised multi-criteria assessment methodology, SRFLGA commitments, road safety initiatives, DRFAWA processes, Roads 2040, and resourcing.

The Regional Road Group Chairperson updates were noted, including current appointments and upcoming Chair elections scheduled for early 2026 following Local Government delegate appointments.

SAC noted that positive feedback had been received from the regions regarding the report.

5.4 RRG Key Performance Indicators 2024-25

The 2024/25 Regional Road Group KPI Annual Report was noted, including results for Black Spot Program expenditure, Road Project Grant expenditure and Metropolitan Sub-Group performance.

Program delivery outcomes highlighted continued under-performance in several regions, particularly the Metropolitan, Goldfields-Esperance and Kimberley regions, while Gascoyne, Wheatbelt South, Wheatbelt North, Mid West and Pilbara acquitted over 80% of funding.

Network condition indicators were reviewed, noting variable performance across regions in completing visual condition surveys and updating road inventory data, with more than half of Local Governments submitting IRIS updates for the first time in three years.

Bridge inspection compliance was noted, with improvements across most regions and full compliance achieved in the Gascoyne and Goldfields-Esperance regions.

5.5 Agreement Commitments

Aboriginal Employment

Action item: An out-of-session report/update is to be provided outlining the Aboriginal employment update.

Road Safety

The RSWG's proposed road safety reporting and data collection framework was noted, including the annual reporting of governing principle indicators to SAC, the combined MRWA/WALGA data collection approach, progress on the communications plan (due March 2026), baseline data preparation, and the multi-channel methodology for advising Local Governments on implementation.

Recycled Material

The SRFLGA Recycled Materials Working Group update was noted, including progress across 10 meetings, maintenance of a materials assessment matrix, inclusion of recycled-materials data in the WALGA Road Asset and Expenditure Survey, monitoring of emerging trends, tools and guidelines developed through LG TRRIP and confirmation that the next meeting will be held in March/April 2026

6. GENERAL BUSINESS

6.1 Future State Roads

Noted.

6.2 Classifications & Proclamations

Noted.

6.3 Heavy Vehicle Services

Condition requiring heavy vehicle operators to have Local Government counter sign a letter of notification of use of certain RAV routes (CA07 condition)

SAC members were advised that Main Roads changed the wording on the condition requiring RAV operators to have Local Government counter sign the CA07 letter without consultation with Local Governments. This has been replaced by a requirement to notify the Local Government of proposed use of the road. It was noted that the CA07 letter has been used as a tool for LGs to manage extraordinary freight tasks through cost recovery or maintenance agreements.

Action Item: DS to review the CA07 change and advise SAC.

6.4 Local Government Transport and Roads Research and Innovation Program (LGTRIPP)

Report was Noted.

6.5 Roundtable/Other.

- OAG Performance Audit: Maintaining Regional Local Roads - Summary of Findings
It was noted that report was focused on Asset Condition and the lack of consistent

and aggregated data being available to make data driven decisions with.

- Issues with what and how to collect data were discussed noting the significant difference between sealed and unsealed roads, particularly given how quickly the condition of an unsealed road can change.
- The various technologies for collecting data were discussed and their suitability for the types of local roads MC commented that the OAG report focused on asset condition. MB stressed that it is no use collecting lots of data if this is not accompanied by a program to help LGs use the data.

Action: MRWA and WALGA to work together to review road condition data collation options and report back to SAC.

- DRFAWA (Disaster Recovery Funding Arrangements - WA) was discussed. Support from MRWA to explore options for more on-site inspections of damage and reinstatement works, rather than undertaking all by desk top audits, was raised.
- KC requested an update to the timing for when regions will receive an update on their 2026–27 Black Spot Program applications was raised.

Action: Review and report to SAC on the timetable for the Black Spot Program.

7. NEXT MEETING

Wednesday, 29 April 2025 at WALGA.

8. MEETING CLOSE

The meeting closed at 11:50pm.

ACTION ITEMS

Reference	Item / Officer	Action Required
December 03/2025 2.2	Summary of Outstanding Actions - September 2025 – 3.1 - Update to SRFLGA Procedures – RPG Funding (RL)	<p>SAC noted that the updated Procedures had been circulated to the regions for feedback, with no responses received as of 2 December. SAC endorsed the Procedures, noting that wording for caps will be updated in line with those used for floors, an option not a requirement.</p> <p>Update the wording and implement the changes into the Procedures.</p>
December 03/2025 1.1	September 2025 – Agreement Commitments – Aboriginal Employment – Trial Communications (DS)	<p>Communications exercise and data collection underway. Summary report required at next SAC meeting.</p> <p>Update from Decembers meeting</p> <p>SAC agreed to carry this item over to the next meeting, noting that data collection is underway and will be presented at the next meeting.</p> <p>It was noted that the City of Swan had provided some data and that data was also to come from Northam.</p>
December 03/2025– 4.1	Expenditure Profile / Sub-Programs 2025– 26 - KP	KP to liaise with the Metropolitan Region regarding the projects that have not yet submitted invoices, and to consult with Reza to determine the appropriate next steps.
December 03/2025– 4.1	Expenditure Profile / Sub-Programs 2025– 26 (DM)	DM to arrange an update regarding the increase in bridge inspections/Bridge Expenditure and the progress on increasing in-house bridge inspection capacity
December 03/2025 5.5	Agreement Commitments - Aboriginal Employment (DS)	An out-of-session report/update is to be provided outlining the Aboriginal employment update.

December 03/2025	<u>6.3 Heavy Vehicle Services – (MA)-DS</u>	MRWA and WALGA to work together to review road condition data collation options and report back to SAC.
December 03/2025	<u>6.4 Roundtable/Other. (MC)</u>	Action: Review and report back on the timetable for the Black Spot Program.