

## STATE ROAD FUNDS TO LOCAL GOVERNMENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE (SAC)

### MINUTES – Wednesday, 3<sup>rd</sup> September 2025. (Meeting 02/2025)

Held at WALGA

#### 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

#### Others in Attendance:

Mr M Bondietti (MB)	WALGA
Mr S Purdy (SP)	IPWEA
Ms R Lewis (RL)	MRWA (Secretariat)
Mr K Pethick (KP)	MRWA
Reza Najafzadeh (RN)	WALGA

#### Apologies:

Mayor Deb Hamblin (MH)	WALGA
Mr D MacLennan (DMS)	WALGA
Mr I Duncan (ID)	WALGA

### **1. WELCOME AND APOLOGIES**

Chair opened the meeting at 10:00am and welcomed SAC members.

Welcomed Mike Andrews to his first meeting. Mike is the General Manager for Network Management and Delivery, overseeing both the Metropolitan region and State-wide asset management. Mike's addition completes the SAC membership.

Noted apologies from members Ian Duncan, David McLennan and Deb Hamblin.

### **2. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS**

The draft minutes of the Meeting held on Tuesday, 29<sup>th</sup> April 2025 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
4.1 Metropolitan RRG Legacy projects not yet finalised	<p>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.</p> <p><b>The working group met, and a paper was provided to the SAC members to discuss the Road Project Grants carry over.</b></p> <p>The three SAC members noted above and Reza Najafzadeh (WALGA Local Roads Program Delivery Manager – WALGA Local Roads PDM) formed a group to review, discuss and formulate options to be presented back to SAC. (See Finance Item 4.1)</p>
5.4 Agreement Commitments (Aboriginal Employment)	<p><b>Action Item: 29 April 2025</b> – DS to work with NS and ID to progress work on the focus area of Aboriginal Employment.</p> <p><b>Complete</b> - As discussed under the Aboriginal Employment Report under 5.4 Agreement Commitments.</p>
5.4 Agreement Commitments (Road Safety)	<p><b>Action Item: 29 April 2025</b> - DM to present the Road Safety Working group's report and detail the recommended Road Safety Management System at the next SAC Meeting.</p> <p><b>Complete</b> – As discussed under the Road Safety under 5.4 Agreement Commitments.</p>
6.1 Roads Program 2025-26 (Indicative)	<p><b>Action:</b> 29 April 2025 - RL to advise RRG's on the 2025-26 State Budget outcomes (on the SRFLGA p's 2025-26 program).</p> <p><b>Complete:</b> Confirmed to all Regional Road Groups on the 22/08/2025 that the 2025-26 SRFLGA program had been signed off.</p>
6.5 Roundtable/Other	<p><b>Action:</b> 29 April 2025 - DS to provide a report on the current bridge support arrangements within the different regions.</p> <p><b>Complete.</b> Bridge Support Arrangement</p> <p>DS noted that four other Regions (Great Southern, Mid-West, Gascoyne and Wheatbelt) all provide support on request from the relevant LGA. MRWA are still available to undertake works, however, given their current workloads, may not be able to respond to such requests within the LGA desired timeframes.</p> <p>The South West are moving to offer the same support as other Reginal offices.</p> <p>It was noted that L1 Bridge Inspections were not a capability issue although each MRWA Regional office can provide further guidance if required/requested.</p>

### **3.CORRESPONDENCE (to 3<sup>rd</sup> September 2025)**

**Out (Dated - 09 May 2025)** – Letter to the Chair of the Goldfields-Esperance Regional Road Group, from A/Chair of SAC and WALGA President.

**Out (dated 08 August 2025)** – Performance and Delivery Letter – All Regional Road Groups.

**IN: (Dated - 15 August 2025)** – Letter to SAC, from the Chair of the Goldfields-Esperance Regional Road Group

Request from the Goldfields-Esperance Regional Road Group to review and consider their Technical Working Groups Terms of Reference, which includes a MCA (Multi Criteria Assessment) model and funding split for distributing the Regional Road Group's Road Project Grant funding.

SAC discussed the documents provided with two specific outcomes.

- 1) that the proposed Goldfields Esperance Regional Road Group Terms of Reference is not approved and that the Goldfields Esperance Regional Road Group continue to use their current road project grant funding methodologies for the 2026-27 funding year. And
- 2) SAC to review the overarching SRFLG Procedures at their next meeting to provide additional guidance for the allocation of RPG funding within the RRGs.

#### **SAC noted**

That the 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.

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.

**Action item:** MB to bring back to the scheduled November SAC meeting recommendations on wording to be added to the Agreement's procedures for the distribution of Road Project Grant Funding within the RRGs

**IN: (Dated – 21st August 2025)-** Letter to SAC from Esperance Shire President & Kalgoorlie Boulder Mayor regarding the RRG MCA and Funding Procedures.

### **4.FINANCIAL REPORTS**

#### **4.1 End of year Expenditure Profile/Sub Programs 2024-25.**

SAC noted the report on expenditure for the period ending June 2025.

MC provided a summary of the expenditure for the 2024-25 end of Year.

2024-25 Budget          \$345M

EOFY Expenditure     \$281M  
Overall Result         \$64M (Under Expenditure)

This was a 4% increase in delivery compared to 2023-24.

Individual categories were discussed with particular attention to Road Project Grants and Black Spot.

### **2024-25 Road Project Grants**

Budget of \$163M  
EOFY Expenditure - \$123M  
Overall Result - \$40M (Under Expenditure)

2024-25 Top performing regions (in % of budget delivered) Gascoyne, Wheatbelt South & Wheatbelt North.

Gascoyne Budget \$4.3M 2024-25 having expenditure or delivered \$4.2M (98%)

Wheatbelt South Budget \$9M Budget 2024-25, spent \$8.1M (90%) and Wheatbelt North Budget \$14.8M / Spent \$12.3M (83%).

Lower delivery regions being Kimberley & Goldfields Esperance.

Kimberley has a budget of \$4.1M and have spent \$2.2M (54%)

Goldfields Esperance budget of \$9.2M, spent \$6.1M (67%).

Metropolitan and Southwest responsible for over 60% of the Category 1 carryover; RN noted that he had reviewed each of the four major legacy projects within the Metropolitan Regional Road Group RPGs with three of them on track to be completed this financial year with only one project perhaps not being finalised until the 2026-27 financial year.

Given the current, and past couple of years, carryover of the Metropolitan Regional Road Group SAC agreed on the following:

- 1) Ask each Metropolitan RRG member if there are additional Rehabilitation works which they could undertake during 2025-26.
- 2) Request Regional Road Groups (other than the Metro and South West) to propose Road Project Grant or Commodity Route "shovel ready" projects for completion within the 2025-26 financial year and for which the LGA could provide a one third contribution.

**Action Item:** RL to Engage with regional road groups to submit shovel-ready projects to the SAC secretariat by 30<sup>th</sup> September 2025.

### **2024-25 Black Spot**

Budget of \$24.3M  
EOFY Expenditure - \$10.9M  
Overall Result - \$13.4 (Under Expenditure)

This was a 23% decrease in delivery compared to 2023-24.

Reasons provided for delays in delivery included delays often from Western Power asset relocations, environmental approvals, and contractor shortages (especially in Southwest and Metro areas).

### **Remote Access Roads**

Have made a 63% increase in expenditure compared to 2023-24.

### **Traffic Management**

Have made a 12% decrease in expenditure compared to 2023-24. The reason for the decrease is due to a lack of contractors being able to do the work on rail crossings.

## **4.2 Expenditure profile/Sub Programs 2025-26.**

SAC noted that the report on the Summary of State Funding on Local Roads for the end of July 2025.

The report reflected the 2025-26 allocation of \$307M approved by the Minister and \$64 million carried over resulting in a total budget of \$371M for delivery this financial year.

It was noted as being too early in the 2025-26 reporting cycle to review specific spending patterns or forecasts.

NS provided apologies and left the meeting at 10:20am.

## **4.3 End of Year Australian Government Program (Black Spot) 2024-25.**

MC commented briefly on the report provided.

## **5. GENERAL REPORTS**

### **5.1 WALGA Local Roads Program Manager**

RN commented on the report provided.

Two significant improvements being;

- 1) Western Power having agreed to process Black Spot requests as a priority. And
- 2) For street lighting, the LGA could directly engage with Western Power approved contractors.

Reza will continue direct engagement with Western Power, DWER, and ATCO Gas to address project delays.

## **5.2 MINDER**

MB commented briefly on the report provided.

## **5.3 Regional Road Group Report**

MB commented briefly on the report provided.

SAC noted the report.

## **5.4 Agreement Commitments**

### **Aboriginal Employment Working Group**

DS commented on the report provided.

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 trailing.

**Action Item:** Complete the communications exercise and for the data collection, aiming for expanded participation and interim reporting on findings.

**Action Item:** Provide summary report on Aboriginal employment trial outcomes and lessons learned to date (focusing on City of Swan and Northam) for discussion at the next SAC meeting.

### **Road Safety**

DM commented on the report provided. A new framework has been developed and endorsed for tracking local government engagement and policy maturity, with annual reporting planned.

SAC endorsed the below.

- data collection and monitoring approach outlined.
- annual reporting of compiled data to the SAC described; and
- proposed approach for information to be provided to local governments for implementation.

**Action item:** DM Develop and roll out communications plan for local government implementation of new road safety engagement framework, aiming to establish a baseline by year-end.

### **Recycled Material**

DM commented on the report provided.

SAC noted that the first baseline report has now been completed.

## **6. GENERAL BUSINESS**

### **6.1 Future State Roads Reviewing.**

SAC noted the report.

### **6.2 Classifications & Proclamations.**

*SAC noted the report.*

### **6.3 Heavy Vehicle Services**

DS briefly commented on the report provided.

It was noted that several incidents have occurred in the last two months involving grain trucks within the Wheatbelt Region. These incidents are currently under investigation. Patrols are increasing within the grain regions for the 2025/26 season.

The HVS Accreditation team will commence auditing a selection of CBH and Bunge receival sites from October to December 2025.

### **6.4 Roundtable/Other.**

- **South West Regional Road Group – Road Prioritisation Guidelines**

SAC deferred this item until the revised Agreement procedures are approved and distributed.

- **LGTRIPP**

*SAC noted the report.*

- **WALGA 2025 Transport and Roads Forum.**

MC noted Main Roads appreciation for the Invitation to WALGA 2025 Transport and Roads Forum. Noting it was a good opportunity to engage with the Local Government's.

- **Regional Road Group Chair Workshop.**

KP commented on the event. That there some robust discussion surrounding funding and delivery performance. It was pleasing to see such interest from the Chairs in attendance (including online).

- **WALGA Local Government Convention 2025**

Monday - Wednesday, 22 - 24 Sep 2025 at Perth Convention and Exhibition Centre.

### **Regional Road Safety Program – Local Roads**

- MC spoke about the funding and the submissions for Federal funding. It was noted that this program could/would be a pilot for all other jurisdictions in Australia

**7.NEXT MEETING**

Tuesday, 2<sup>nd</sup> December 2025 at Main Roads.

**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
<u>September 2025</u> 3.1 Update to SRFLGA Procedures – RPG Funding MB	<b>Action item:</b> MB to bring back to the scheduled November SAC meeting recommendations on wording to be added to the Agreement's procedures for the distribution of Road Project Grant Funding
<u>September 2025</u> 4.1 Request for additional Projects RL	<b>Action Item:</b> RL to Engage with regional road groups to submit shovel-ready projects to the SAC secretariat by 30 <sup>th</sup> September 2025.
<u>September 2025</u> 5.4 Agreement Commitments- Aboriginal Employment – Trial Communications DS	<b>Action Item:</b> Complete the communications exercise and for the data collection, aiming for expanded participation and interim reporting on findings.  <b>Action Item:</b> Provide summary report on Aboriginal employment trial outcomes and lessons learned to date (focusing on City of Swan and Northam) for discussion at the next SAC meeting.
<u>September 2025</u> 5.4 Road Safety - Agreement Commitments - Road Safety – Framework Communications plan DM	<b>Action item:</b> DM Develop and roll out communications plan for local government implementation of new road safety engagement framework, aiming to establish a baseline by year-end.