

Roads

Condition Assessment of Roads of Regional Significance

A condition survey of all Roads of Regional Significance in the Mid West region, funded through the *State Road Funds to Local Government Agreement*, was completed and results presented to the Regional Road Group. This provides the Group and individual Local Governments with consistent data from which to plan road investment strategies. It also provides initial function evidence in the event that claims for disaster recovery funding are made.

Proposals have been evaluated to conduct condition surveys of Roads of Regional Significance in the Great Southern and Goldfields – Esperance Regions. This work is planned to commence in April.

Guidelines for Road Gravel Supplies in Western Australia

WALGA published guidelines to assist Local Governments source gravel as a road building material. These guidelines provide information on the process for accessing gravel under various types of land tenure and offers information on legislative requirements such as native vegetation clearing, proclaimed water management areas, dieback management, aboriginal heritage and native title considerations, and data support to meet regulatory requirements.

ROADS 2040: Development Strategies for Regionally Significant Local Roads

Feedback was invited and received from Local Governments and Regional Road Groups outside the metropolitan area concerning revised draft Guidelines for Regionally Significant Local Roads. Outside the metropolitan area, only these roads are eligible for Road Project Grant funding through the *State Road Funds to Local Government Agreement*. Once the Guidelines are accepted, Regional Road Groups will be tasked to review their roads and strategies for development of regionally significant roads.

Road Assets and Expenditure 2019/20

Data collection for the 2019/20 Road Assets and Expenditure Report was completed. Analysis and reporting was commenced and the report will be published in May.

Transport and Roads Forum 2021

The Transport and Roads Forum is scheduled for Friday, 14 May 2021 at Crown, Perth.

Funding

State Road Funds to Local Government Agreement

The State Road Funds to Local Government Advisory Committee will meet in mid-April to consider the 2021/22 Local Roads Program. It is noted that the State Government budget has been deferred, and delegates will be seeking support for early approval of the program.

Regional Road Safety Program

A proposed \$35 million program of work to provide sealed shoulders and audible edge lines on about 1000km of Local Government roads in 2021/22 has been developed in conjunction with Local Governments and Main Roads WA. This will be considered for funding by the Commonwealth in April.

Urban and Regional Transport

Regional Roadworks Signage Review

WALGA is contributing to a Regional Roadworks Signage Review initiated by the Minister for Transport. This review will be using local forums and digital platforms to seek direct input from a wide range of stakeholders during April and May.

Road Safety

Road Safety Council Update

The Road Safety Council is focussed on implementation of the new road safety strategy within the current context. Data reflecting pandemic-related factors including freight movements, travel restrictions, public transport use, housing, drug and alcohol use, vehicle sales, the redeployment of Police traffic enforcement and driver behaviour was considered along with the latest results of community attitudes surveys which shows a drop in public concern for road safety.

Preparation for the 2021-22 Road Trauma Trust Account (RTTA) process included consideration of an historical analysis of RTTA funding allocations, projected funding requirements and long-term optimal allocations.

Preferred Supply Program

Approximately half the WALGA Preferred Supplier base of 1,200 companies have been transitioned to the new environment and the process is ongoing.

Further details on the new Preferred Supply Environment can be found at:

<https://walga.asn.au/Preferred-Supplier-Program.aspx>

The existing Road Building Contractors, Materials and Related Services Panel expired on 31 March 2021. Any contractors not renewing their Contract prior to this date will not retain their Preferred Supply status.

In addition to the 20 categories from the previous panel, the new Preferred Supply Panel, Roads Infrastructure and Depot Services will add:

- Public Lighting Install and Maintenance
- Road, Pavement and Footpath Design and Engineering
- Traffic & Transport Engineering.

Updates regarding the overall transition process can be found at:

<https://walga.asn.au/Procurement/Preferred-Supplier-Program/Preferred-Supplier-Directory>

Local Government buyers are urged to ensure they adhere to their Purchasing policies when seeking quotations including consideration of any funding requirements where applicable.

For further information on the Preferred Supply Program for Roads, please contact Craig Grant on cgrant@walga.asn.au.