

Roads

Road Asset Preservation Model

Feedback from WALGA Zones regarding strategic options for review of the Road Asset Preservation Model was considered by State Council in May. In accordance with the State Council resolution, the WALGA President has written to the Chair of the Local Government Grants Commission, requesting that Commission officers be made available to brief Zones or Regional Road Groups, as requested. Discussions with Commission officers regarding model access and labelling are on-going.

Condition Assessment of Roads of Regional Significance

Following review of quotations, Talis Consultants were appointed to undertake the second phase of a project to provide a condition assessment of all Roads of Regional Significance. This phase will cover the Great Southern and Goldfields – Esperance regions. In addition to the condition assessment and video data capture of sealed roads, the survey will include video of Significant unsealed roads and condition reporting on access roads to remote Aboriginal communities. Funding has been provided through the State Road Funds to Local Government Agreement to perform visual condition surveys of Significant sealed roads over a five year cycle. The first phase of this project, a survey the roads in the Mid West region, was recently completed.

ROADS 2040: Development Strategies for Regionally Significant Local Roads

Guidelines setting out the criteria for the selection of Significant Local Roads have been developed after consultation with Local Governments. Outside the metropolitan area, only these roads are eligible for Road Project Grant funding through the State Road Funds to Local Government Agreement. There was concern that the Guidelines did not adequately reflect the significant differences in scenarios across the State. The final document addresses these concerns and provides autonomy to the RRGs to make appropriate decisions. The proposed Guideline has been submitted to the State Road Funds to Local Government Advisory Committee (SAC) for approval.

Road Safety Management System

WALGA, Main Roads WA and the South West Regional Road Group have worked on and are close to finalising modifications to the project prioritisation guidelines and multi criteria assessment model to provide a greater focus on road safety when setting the annual roads program for the region. This is an important pilot in delivering the commitment agreed in the State Road Funds to Local Government Agreement 2018/19 to 2022/23 to work towards establishing a road safety management system. If the approach is successful, work will commence with other Regional Road Groups regarding the road safety focus of their project prioritisation guidelines.

Road – Rail Interface Agreements

WALGA, Main Roads WA and the Public Transport Authority (PTA) are working to develop a new Road - Rail Interface Agreement. The draft Agreement, which identifies the responsibilities of the parties to manage risks associated with a road/rail crossing on the PTA network, will be provided to Local Governments for consideration and feedback.

Road Assets and Expenditure 2019/20

The 2019/20 Road Assets and Expenditure Report was published in May and distributed to all Local Governments, key decision-makers in Federal and State Government as well as industry stakeholders. The report is readily accessible on the WALGA website [here](#).

Sealed Road Condition Indices

Sealed road condition data from the 119 Local Governments that use the RAMM road asset management system is being analysed to provide information about the condition of the Local Government managed road network. This will be an update on a similar analysis completed in 2018. Indices describing the condition of the road surface, road pavement and drainage have been derived. Trends in the condition of the network in different parts of the State are important to understand. This information is a critical part of the evidence base to underpin advocacy for on-going State and Federal Government investment in Local Government roads.

Transport and Roads Forum 2021

The Transport and Roads Forum was postponed, due to restrictions on gatherings and mask-wearing requirements implemented following the COVID-19 community transmission cases recorded in early May. The Forum is scheduled for Thursday, 1 July 2021 at Crown, Perth.

Funding

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. Main Roads has informed all Local Governments with proposed projects of those that have been submitted. The proposed program of work is being considered for funding by the Commonwealth Government.

Urban and Regional Transport

Regional Roadworks Signage Review

Engagement with Local Governments, the traffic management industry, road contractors, transport industry and the general public concerning their experience with roadworks signage in regional WA has continued led by Department of Transport and ARRB. WALGA is contributing to this review, by encouraging local participation and reviewing the analytical reports that have been drafted from a Local Government perspective. Recommendations will be delivered to the Minister for Transport in August.

Road Safety

Road Safety Council Update

The Road Safety Council continues to focus on the implementation of the new road safety strategy 2020 - 2030. The findings of an enquiry into the increase in Victoria's road toll have been considered in terms of implications for WA and a draft *Driving Change Action Plan*, to cover the first two years, has been developed in consultation with State Government agencies. WALGA is seeking to input as a means of gaining recognition for the important role of Local Governments.

Preferred Supply Program

The transition from C017_18 Road Building Contractors, Materials & Related Services to the new (PSP009) Roads Infrastructure and Depot Services panel of suppliers for Road Building Contractors and Materials is completed.

WALGA is actively seeking feedback from Local Governments regarding supplier performance, local supply representation and industry capacity to deliver in the current environment.

For further information and to provide feedback, please contact Craig Grant on cgrant@walga.asn.au.