



Regional Road Group Report

April 2023



Roads

Condition Assessment of Roads of Regional Significance

The Australian Road Research Board (ARRB) have completed the visual condition survey covering strategically significant roads (ROADS 2040) in the Wheatbelt Region, presented to the Regional Road Group meetings and delivered two workshops for technical staff. All data has now been delivered and WALGA will send a hard drive to each Local Government with the video data, PowerBI dashboard, and report soon. It is proposed to survey the South West Region in the next phase of this project.

Local Government Transport and Roads Research and Innovation Program

WALGA and Main Roads have recently commenced three major research projects in key areas of focus for Local Governments. The three projects are to develop 1) a Local Government guideline for sustainable road construction practices in WA, 2) a guideline for the selection and implementation of low-cost road safety improvements on rural roads, and 3) a practical guide to the timely sealing for Local Government roads. The projects will support the uptake of best practice in these areas in the Local Government sector and are forecast to be completed by mid-2023.

Funding

Multi-Criteria Assessment (MCA) Model Revisions

Work has continued to harmonise the MCA models used by Regional Road Groups to prioritise proposed projects. The proposed changes reflect the new focus areas of the State Roads Funds to Local Governments Agreement, while still allowing for flexibility to recognise the significant differences between regions. The review processes for each region will commence in June/July 2023 with the intent of delivering a revised MCA model in each region for assessment of 2025/26 projects.

Road Safety

Road Safety Ratings for Local Government Roads Project

WALGA and the UWA Western Australian Centre for Road Safety Research project team has developed a new tool and prepared draft guidelines to support the development of safety ratings for Local Government roads. The Road Safety Ratings for Local Government Roads Assessment Guide and Reference Document are being used by seven Local Governments in the pilot phase of the project. This pilot phase will enable further refinements to the tool and assess the usability of the tool for Local Governments. The final tool is expected to be completed by mid-2023.

Road Safety Council Update

The Road Safety Council met on 10 March 2023. It was the first meeting of the new membership, established by the incoming chairperson and confirmed by Ministerial appointment, consisting of senior representatives from transport, police, health, planning, education, Insurance Commission, Road Safety Commission, the RAC and WALGA represented by CEO Nick Sloan.

At this meeting, members considered the delivery of the Driving Change road safety strategy and the priorities for evaluating Road Trauma Trust Account (RTTA) funded projects. The Road Safety Council also noted that the Office of the Auditor General is conducting a Performance Audit – Managing Road Safety Funding and Strategies.