

Austroads Technology Programme

Transport Planning and Project Evaluation Review Panel

Meeting 23 October 2007, Melbourne Australia

Meeting Report - Dave Gennard

Purpose

To provide feedback on the recent 1-day Austroads Transport Planning and Project Evaluation Panel meeting held in Melbourne to discuss the current progress on existing projects and future research proposals for the Austroads Technology Programme.

Background

The Transport Planning and Project Evaluation Panel meets two to three times a year. The October meeting was timed to be in time to monitor progress on existing projects and develop new proposals for consideration and development by February 08.

Key Discussions and Outcomes

Although the meeting covered the whole range of activities being undertaken by the Panel there were two major items discussed as follows:

- The further development of a Transport Planning Guide; and
- Future research proposals.

1. Transport Planning Guide

The Transport Planning Guide is to be developed as a bottom up tool, concentrating specifically on road planning at the link and route level. The guide is developing well with the completion of the summary of the ACT Guidelines and how the Austroad Guide and the ACT Guidelines inter-relate. The key difference is that the ACT Guidelines dealt with network considerations and the Austroad guide dealt with route and link improvements.

Surveys of key organizations across Australia and New Zealand have been completed and the results will be summarized to identify good practice. The meeting felt that a good approach would include the consideration at the route and link level of network context, land use, stakeholder views and comments, modal alternatives, funding issues, and economic, environmental and social implications.

The publication would compliment the Australian Transport Council (ATC) guideline on transport, which were developed to be a top down set of guidelines in terms of the network context, land use, consideration of all modes, funding of the proposals, stakeholder consideration and an iteration to check against the network proposals.

2. Future Proposals

Future projects for being developed for consideration were as follows:

- Enhancing components of Economic Appraisal – particularly the implication of peak spreading
- Project Evaluation Guidance For Routine Minor Works"

ARRB Courses

Attached to this note is a list of future ARRB course some of which may be of interest to Transit staff. They range from geometric design of roads to alkali-aggregate reaction in concrete as well as traffic engineering workshops and cycling and walking workshops.

Awareness Raising of Austroads Programme

Austroads is looking to raise awareness of their work and ensure that the guides get out into the industry and become well used. It was considered important that each representative ensures that the work is distributed widely within his or her jurisdiction.

ARRB Conferences 2008

ARRB is pleased to announce the following conferences for 2008, to be held in Adelaide at the Adelaide Convention Centre:

- 1st International Sprayed Sealing Conference, 27-29 July 2008
- 23rd ARRB Conference, 30 July-2 August 2008

Knowledge Transfer Workshop Program 2007/2008

Basic Geometric Road Design Workshop

29-31 October 2007, Vermont South, Victoria, Australia

ARRB is pleased to offer a three day hands-on training workshop on Basic Geometric Road Design.

Delegates will obtain a clear understanding of the key geometric design requirements for road design. They will be given the opportunity to apply the knowledge gained with various design exercises and syndicate participation of a redesign of an actual 3km rural road.

Alkali-Aggregate Reaction in Concrete Forum

4 December 2007, Vermont South, Victoria, Australia

AAR is a progressive deterioration process in concrete structures which may lead to severe cracking under conditions where reactive aggregate, sufficient amounts of alkali and water are present in the concrete.

The first national workshop on AAR was held in Australia in 1991 and an international conference in 1996. A number of new cases of AAR have emerged since that time which involve precast concrete. Also progress has been made in the development of test methods for identifying reactive aggregate.

The aim of this forum is to transfer the new information to the relevant industries and update the level of understanding of these issues.

Austrroads Guide to Traffic Engineering Practices Workshop Series

2007/2008 Australia & New Zealand

A series of workshops, planned to coincide with the publication of updates to the Guidelines to Traffic Engineering Practices series, gives you the opportunity to keep abreast with the latest practices.

Public Liability Awareness Workshop Series

2007/2008 Australia

A two day intensive professional development workshop on public infrastructure liability. The workshop comprises of 2 x one day options that will respectively focus on: the principles of public infrastructure related liability and the key basics involved in the investigation of incidents; the legal processes and associated personal skills; and identifying systems improvements to mitigate risks and hence secure safety related gains. Each one day option is available as a stand alone module, although attendance at the entire course is recommended, providing participants with an impressive appreciation of key liability issues in managing infrastructure in today's society, and a toolbox for

achieving positive outcomes.

Local Skid Resistance Strategies Workshop Series

2007/2008 Australia

ARRB is pleased to offer a one day workshop on developing effective local strategies in managing road surface skid resistance across a network. The Austroads Guidelines for the Management of Road Surface Skid Resistance encourage all road authorities to develop a local strategy to manage skid resistance. In doing so, road authorities can secure positive road safety outcomes, and mitigate risk and thus reduce vulnerability to legal proceedings for failure to adequately consider these issues.

Planning for Walking & Cycling Workshop Series

2007/2008 Australia

This is a two-day workshop on the latest practices applying to sustainable urban transport planning, specifically looking at planning and behaviour change for walking and cycling. This workshop is based on the extensive research and consulting work undertaken by ARRB in recent years, the experience of the presenters and the various studies and guides issued by Austroads. This workshop was previously known as Sustainable Urban Transport Planning.

Fundamentals of Microsimulation Traffic Modelling Series

2008 Australia

This workshop provides instructions on the usage and limitations of microsimulation traffic models together with reviews of currently available software packages. It will also address the issues of model calibration, validation and auditing which are illustrated with modelling case studies.

Managing Road Pavement Assets Workshop Series

2007/2008 Australia

These workshops are based on the extensive research and consulting work undertaken by ARRB in recent years and the various studies and guides issued by Austroads.

Parking Operations Workshop Series

2007/2008 Australia

Due to popular demand ARRB Consulting is once again pleased to present the award winning Parking Workshops. The workshops focus on operational issues associated with design, technologies, security, operating costs, and management of on and off street parking areas.

NetRisk Training Workshop Series

2008 Australia

ARRB Group will offer two-day training sessions in the implementation of the NETRisk Method. This intensive training course will cover network level assessments including trigger setting, high risk site detection, project level investigations and individual site assessment, including site visits and the analysis of video data. Graduates of the NetRisk training course can begin applying their knowledge immediately following the training session, as the NetRisk software is provided free as part of the training session.