

Freight Program

Progress Report to 31 May 2006 and Proposed 2006-07 Work Program

Report for Austroads Council Meeting No. 39 22 June 2006

Objective

Assist road and transport agencies to address the future freight task.

John Dudgeon
Program Manager (Freight)
Phone Number: (07) 3120 7177
Email: john.w.dudgeon@mainroads.qld.gov.au

Freight Program Progress Report to 31 May 2006 Part 1

Overview

The Freight program is progressing projects on its approved program which is outlined on the attached Freight Program flowchart.

- All six 2004-05 long-tail projects have been completed, published and closed.
- There are eight continuing projects, six of which have consultants commissioned.
- Two more endorsed- in-principle projects are due to commence in July 2006, subject to approval at this meeting
- Two COAG projects are proposed for approval at this meeting.

While expenditure in the program is low, this will be substantially addressed by end 2006.

Program benefits

Membership of the Freight task force has been stable for the last year. This has enabled:

- Progressing projects has improved. Project initiation processes have been refined. Project team membership has grown which results in higher quality reports.
- Rebalancing the work program with both a strategic and operational emphasis.
- Building stronger relationships with the NTC and the Australian Trucking Association.

The five major jurisdictions are all managing projects and two of the smaller jurisdictions have hosted meetings.

There is a high level of attendance at meetings and a willingness to support the program. Meetings of the task force are combined with a technical tour or workshop.

The program has provided a forum for the consideration of mass-distance charging.

Taskforce membership and meeting

David Ball from Queensland Transport is leaving the freight task force. We would like to acknowledge the valuable contribution David has provided to the program over the last two years of his membership.

The recent task force meeting in Melbourne in late May, focussed on ensuring all current projects were progressing and contributing to program priorities.

Continuing discussion on issues relating to COAG outcomes and potential projects were considered by taskforce members.

Progress Issues

A detailed briefing on all projects within the Freight program is included as Attachment A.

The national office database shows that the following six projects are running on target or less than three months late.

- **FS1011** – Vehicle Environmental Standards for Night Time Operations.
Contractors for this NSW project are expected to be engaged in the first week of June. Expected completion dates remain as October 2006 for phase one, with phase 2 completed by December 2006.

- **FS1012** – Guidelines for Identifying, Assessing and Managing the Environmental Impacts Arising from Trucks Using Metropolitan Road Links.
Consultants for this Qld project have been engaged. There are significant inter-relationships between this project and FS1010 and FS1011 and all three briefs reflect that communication across these projects is important to ensure the best outcomes.
- **FS1152** – Freight Forecasting and Analysis (Scoping Study).
A highly productive project inception meeting for this SA project will ensure a clear direction for the project. It will add value to jurisdictional initiatives in freight modelling by identifying gaps that the Freight Program can contribute to without duplicating effort.
- **FS1179** – Second Heavy Vehicle Access Management Workshop.
The organising committee moved this workshop to July to maximise industry participation. The event will be held at Rydges Hotel in Melbourne. The industry perspective will be valuable in identifying any future projects.
- **FS1180** – Improving the Transparency of Regulatory (Heavy Vehicle Access) Decision Making.
This NTC project will be progressed following feedback at the Second Heavy Vehicle Access Management Workshop in July 2006.
- **FS1181** – Review of Mass Concessions.
This Qld project is progressing well and a draft report is due in the first week of June. Following reference group member comments, this project is likely to be completed nearly on schedule by the end of June 2006. Depending on the sensitivity of the final report, it may be either an internal or public report.

The national office database shows that there is one project running between six and twelve months late.

- **FS1010** – Community Attitudes to Road Freight Vehicles – Behavioural Research
A consultant should be commissioned for this NSW project by mid June, with the first draft report due in two months.

The national office database shows that there is one project is running greater than twelve months late.

- **FS1072** – ITS Technologies for Metropolitan Freight Vehicle Operations
This Vic project has commissioned ARRB. A project inception meeting has been held and a project plan established including a workshop in July 2006 with the final report due in November 2006. Significant linkages between this project and the Network Program have been identified and their involvement is being sought.

Program Expenditure

As at 31 May 2006 the program has spent \$68.2k which is 12.6% of its budget to that date. Details are shown in the expenditure report which is included as Attachment B. Based on this it is anticipated that \$215k will be spent at the end of the financial year leaving \$278k of unspent funds. It is requested that unspent funds carry forward to the next financial year.

While expenditure in the program is low, this will be substantially addressed by end 2006.

Specific Council/SCOT/ATC asked actions to be brought to this meeting

The two projects above have been endorsed by SCOT and the ATC.

Once outcomes of the Productivity Commission are known, the Freight program will continue to contribute to the area of potential impacts of road pricing regimes. It is working closely with the NTC to maintain a national perspective on these important issues.

Freight Program Proposed 2006–07 Work Program Part 2

Overview and direction

The Freight program continues to progress projects within the defined streams of the Austroads Strategic Plan as outlined in the Freight program flowchart (Attachment E):

- Community Attitudes
- Network Utilisation
- Data and Forecasting
- Compliance and Access
- Infrastructure Investment.

Specific initiatives

New Projects

Two projects were endorsed in principle at the March 2006 Council meeting in Canberra and are ready to commence in July 2006.

- **FS1214** – Freight Routes in Urban and Rural Areas (Scoping Study)
At least three Australian states have announced or consulted about freight routes within their jurisdictions. This has been done from different state perspectives and with different methods, objectives, approaches, funding and to progress different issues. This project will outline jurisdictional approaches and scope whether a national approach would improve processes, consistency and outcomes sought by jurisdictions. Barry Ferguson from Queensland Main Roads has agreed to manage this project.
- **FS1215** – Managing High Wide Loads
With Australia's commodity boom, the number and size of HWL vehicles along some routes is increasing. Typically these are regarded as one-off movements and managed accordingly. WA has adopted a more systematic approach which has the potential to reduce work by jurisdictions and costs to industry. The intent is to explore a national approach to improve productivity. Kevin Smith of Main Roads Western Australia has been appointed project manager and the brief agreed. It is expected that a consultant will be chosen in early July.

Two new projects are being proposed by the Freight program. Both of these projects are responding to COAG initiatives.

- **FO1332** – Development of a Road Network for B-Triples
David Rolland of the NTC has agreed to manage this project. Some initial work has been completed by Meyrick on behalf of the NTC to scope this project effectively.
- **FO1333** – Road Transport Compliance and Enforcement – Monitoring and Reporting
Don Hogben of VicRoads has agreed to manage this project. It is envisaged that the project will comprise two stages with the first being a scoping report, before commencing the project.

The two proposed projects are COAG related projects initiated by NTC and DOTARS for management by the Freight program.

3 Year Rolling Program (2004-07)

The Freight program continues to engage stakeholders in order to achieve maximum benefit from project outcomes.

The two projects commencing in July 2006 within the network utilisation strategic research stream are a response to changing needs of jurisdictions in the context of a rapidly increasing freight task.

Involvement of industry, particularly with the Second Heavy Vehicle Access Management Workshop is considered important in achieving successful outcomes that will contribute to national initiatives and harmonisation efforts.

More effort is needed to integrate completed projects within jurisdictional processes. The Freight Program has raised this as an issue with the Austroads National Office for further consideration.

External stakeholder engagement

The Freight program continues to engage with stakeholders and industry in order to ensure outcomes are widely agreed and adopted.

Specific external stakeholders that have been consulted on the program or on various projects include:

- Australian Logistics Council
- Australian Trucking Association and state associations
- National Transport Commission
- Government departments with responsibility for the rail networks, ports, and broader infrastructure planning in States/Territories
- Australian Competition and Consumer Commission

Recommendation

- Note the progress report for the 2005-06 program.
- Endorse the continuing and new projects and the program budget for the 2006-07 financial year.

JOHN DUDGEON
PROGRAM MANAGER - FREIGHT

FREIGHT PROJECTS STATUS REPORT AS AT 31 MAY 2006

Project Number	Title	Scheduled Completion date	Forecast completion date	Current Status
Projects more than 12 months late				
FS1072	ITS Technologies for Metropolitan Freight Vehicle Operations (RUM.HV.N.535)	062004	092006	30/5/06 - ARRB awarded contract for this project. Project inception meeting held. Final brief and contract signed, and project commenced.
Projects between 6 and 12 months late				
FS1010	Community Attitudes to Road Freight Vehicles – Behavioural Research	102005	082006	31/05/06 - Taverner Research awarded contract for this project.
Projects on target or less than 3 months late				
FS1011	Vehicle Environmental Standards for Night-time Operations	102006	122006	30/5/06 - Project will proceed in 2 phases. Phase one due for completion in October 2006. Draft project plan and consultant's brief completed. Meeting held in Sydney with project manager to discuss project status and interactions with other projects. Project team convened. Draft project plan and consultant's brief sent to project team for comment. Request for proposal sent to a range of consultant's – closing date for proposals is 25 May 06.
FS1012	Guidelines for Identifying, Assessing and Managing the Environmental Impacts Arising from Trucks Using Metropolitan Road Links	062007	062007	30/5/06 - Meeting held in Sydney with project managers for FS1012, FS1010 and FD1011 to expediate commencement and discuss interactions with other projects. Brief completed. Tenders received from two consultants. Tender review identified a synergy between the two tenders. It was decided to engage Pekol Consulting on behalf of Austroads for the budgeted amount (\$85k). A further \$25k will be paid independently by Qld Main Roads to engage GAIA Consulting (Peter Syson) to work in conjunction with Pekol Consulting, providing the Town Planning aspects of the project. Project inception meeting with both consultants held.
FS1152	Freight Forecasting and Analysis – scoping study	062006	082006	30/5/06 - SKM selected as consultants for this project. Inception meeting held with consultants and project team in Melbourne to refine brief. Development of work plan is currently underway.
FS1179	Heavy Vehicle Access Management Workshop	062006	072006	30/5/06 - To allow for greater industry involvement, the workshop was postponed until 4 and 5 July 2006, to be held in Melbourne. Interest for these new dates is quite high. Event organiser has been engaged and is working well. Facilitator has been engaged after endorsement by the Freight task force.

Project Number	Title	Scheduled Completion date	Forecast completion date	Current Status
FS1180	Improving the Transparency of Regulatory (Heavy Vehicle Access) Decision Making	082006	082006	30/5/06 - This project relies significantly on issues identified in the Second Heavy Vehicle Access Management Workshop and will commence immediately after the workshop which is to be held in early July 2006.
FS1181	Review of Mass Concessions	062006	082006	30/5/06 - First draft of the final report is expected by the end of May, with project team members asked to provide quick turn-around on comments to ensure the planned completion date is achieved. Primary aim of this project is to establish what is happening within jurisdictions, and will be published as an internal Austroads report.

Freight (\$'000)										
Expenditure Report : 1 July 2005 to 31 May 2006										
Project No.	Project Name	Budget to Jun-06	Budget Post Mar Council	Budget to May-06	Actual to May-06	% Actual to Budget May-06	Est Out turn (Jun 06)	Previous years Costs	Total Project Cost	Notes
	1									
FS1010	Community Attitudes to Road Freight Vehicles - Behavioural Research	80.0	80.0	73.3	0.0	0.0	20.0	0.0	20.0	
FS1011	Vehicle Environmental Standards for Night-Time Operations	90.0	90.0	82.5	0.0	0.0	20.0	0.0	20.0	
FS1012	Guidelines for Identifying, Assessing and managing the Environmental Impacts Arising from Trucks Using Metropolitan Road Links	70.0	70.0	64.2	0.0	0.0	20.0	15.0	35.0	
FS1013	Review of Freight Data Collection and Generation Procedures and Opportunities (Scoping Project)	15.6	15.6	15.6	17.6	112.8	17.6	58.9	76.5	1 (c)
FS1068	Compliance & Enforcement - Guidelines for the Practical Application of New Chain of Responsibility Provisions (RUM.HV.C.042)	2.8	2.8	2.6	0.0	0.0	0.0	59.7	59.7	(c)
FS1069	Compliance & Enforcement - Guidelines for the Content, Development, Approval and Use of Industry Codes of Practice (RUM.HV.C.043)	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	26.6	26.6	(c)
FS1070	Integration and Application of Compliance and Enforcement Guidelines (RUM.HV.C.045)	57.5	57.5	52.7	0.0	0.0	0.0	32.5	32.5	(c) (a)
FS1072	ITS Technologies for Metropolitan Freight Vehicle Operations (RUM.HV.N.535)	60.0	60.0	55.0	0.0	0.0	12.0	0.0	12.0	
FS1073	Community Attitudes to Road Freight Vehicles (RUM.HV.N.534)	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	85.0	85.0	(c)
FS1074	Use of Temporal Spare Capacity on Metropolitan Networks (RUM.HV.N.536)	40.0	40.0	36.7	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	(c) (a)
FS1101	Compliance & Enforcement - Guidelines for the Assessment of the Severity of Breaches of the Load Restraint Standards (RUM.HV.C.038)	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	25.3	25.3	(c)
FS1152	Freight Forecasting and Analysis - Scoping Study	30.0	30.0	27.5	0.0	0.0	10.0	0.0	10.0	
FS1179	Heavy Vehicle Access Management Workshop	0.0	30.0	27.5	0.0	0.0	15.0	0.0	15.0	
FS1180	Improving the Transparency of Regulatory (Heavy Vehicle Access) Decision Making	0.0	15.0	13.8	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	
FS1181	Review of Mass Concessions	0.0	20.0	18.3	6.0	32.7	20.0	0.0	20.0	
Total Projects		445.9	510.9	469.6	23.6	5.0	134.6	303.0	437.6	
Program Management										
	Program Assistant Salary	45.0	45.0	41.3	30.7	74.4	45.0			
	Travel	15.0	15.0	13.8	9	65.5	15.0			
	n	5.0	5.0	4.6	3.7	80.7	5.0			
	Meeting and venue	5.0	5.0	4.6	0.0	0.0	5.0			
	Development of project proposals	5.0	5.0	4.6	0.0	0.0	5.0			
	Ancillary	5.0	5.0	4.6	1.2	26.2	5.0			
	Freight & Heavy Vehicle Project Management	0.0	0.0	0.0	0	0.0	0.0			
Total Program Management		80.0	80.0	73.3	44.6	60.8	80.0	0.0	0.0	
Total Freight Program		525.9	590.9	543.0	68.2	12.6	214.6	303.0	437.6	
Notes:	(c) (a) closed - Abandoned									
	(1) Over by \$2,000									

FREIGHT PROGRAM OVERVIEW

Project No.	Name	Description	Type S = Strategic T = Technical P = Publications O = Other	Budget (\$K)		
				2006-07	2007-08	2008-09
Continuing projects						
FS1011	Vehicle Environmental Standards for Night Time Operations	This is one of several Austroads projects aimed at developing a regulatory regime whereby truck environmental standards are matched to the environmental requirements for night-time operations on designated road links or geographic zones.	S	10		
FS1012	Guidelines for Identifying, Assessing and Managing the environmental Impacts Arising from Trucks Using Metropolitan Road Links	To develop guidelines for identifying, assessing and managing the environmental noise impacts from trucks using metropolitan road links, with particular emphasis on night time operation. The guidelines will need to be applicable to new or existing roads and address build and non-build management solutions.	S	15		
New projects						
FS1214	Freight Routes in Urban and Rural Areas (Scoping Study)	At least three (3) Australian states have announced or consulted about major freight routes within their jurisdictions. This has been done from different state perspectives and with different methods, objectives, approaches, funding and to progress different issues. This project will outline jurisdictional approaches and scope whether a national approach would improve processes, consistency and outcomes sought by jurisdictions. This is seen as being an internal report to improve jurisdictional processes in the context of freight transport becoming increasingly a national issue.	S	75		
FS1215	Managing High Wide Loads	The purpose of this project is to review the practices employed by State jurisdictions to manage the transport of large indivisible (over-dimensional/over-mass) High Wide Loads (HWL) along urban and rural road networks, and develop guidelines for a consistent approach to the planning, development and operation of HWL road corridors.	S	45		

Project No.	Name	Description	Type S = Strategic T = Technical P = Publications O = Other	Budget (\$K)		
				2006-07	2007-08	2008-09
FO1332	Development of a Road Network for B-Triples	The National Transport Commission (NTC) on behalf of the Australian Transport Council (ATC) wish to develop and map a national network of routes that might be used by B-triples around Australia.	O	50		
FS1333	Road Transport Compliance & Enforcement - Monitoring and Reporting	The purpose of the project is to establish a national process for the use of available heavy vehicle compliance data to provide a picture of compliance with relevant road transport laws. It is proposed to analyse data over time to investigate trends in compliance.	O	100	30	

FREIGHT PROGRAM BUDGET 2006 - 2007												
PROJECT NUMBER	PROJECT NAME	SCHEDULED COMPLETION DATE	FORECAST COMPLETION DATE	PREVIOUS ACTUAL TOTAL	05/06 BUDGET	05/06 ESTIMATED OUT TURN	06/07 CARRY OVER	06/07 NEW	06/07 TOTAL	07/08 FUTURE COST	08/09 FUTURE COST	TOTAL ESTIMATED COST
2005-06 CLOSED PROJECTS												
FS1013	Review of Freight Data Collection and Generation Procedures and Opportunities (Scoping Project) (\$4.5 transferred from closed project FS1146)(CLOSED)	Jun-05	Oct-05	58.9	15.6	17.6	0.0		0.0			76.5
FS1068	Compliance & Enforcement - Guidelines for the Practical Application of New Chain of Responsibility Provisions (RUM.HV.C.042) (CLOSED)	Mar-03	Nov-05	59.7	2.8	0.0	0.0		0.0			59.7
FS1069	Compliance & Enforcement - Guidelines for the Content, Development, Approval and Use of Industry Codes of Practice (RUM.HV.C.043)(CLOSED)	Mar-03	Aug-05	26.6	0.0	0.0	0.0		0.0			26.6
FS1070	Integration and Application of Compliance and Enforcement Guidelines (RUM.HV.C.045) (CLOSED - ABANDONED)	Jul-04	Jun-06	32.5	57.5	0.0	0.0		0.0			32.5
FS1073	Community Attitudes to Road Freight Vehicles (RUM.HV.N.534)(Transferred \$5k from closed project FS1071) (CLOSED)	Jun-04	Aug-05	85.0	0.0	0.0	0.0		0.0			85.0
FS1074	Use of Temporal Spare Capacity on Metropolitan Networks (RUM.HV.N.536) (CLOSED - ABANDONED)	Jun-05	Jun-06	0.0	40.0	0.0	0.0		0.0			0.0
FS1101	Compliance & Enforcement - Guidelines for the Assessment of the Severity of Breaches of the Load Restraint Standards (RUM.HV.C.038) (CLOSED)	Mar-03	Sep-05	25.3	0.0	0.0	0.0		0.0			25.3
CARRYOVER AND CONTINUING PROJECTS 2006-07 - STRATEGIC												
FS1010	Community Attitudes to Road Freight Vehicles - Behavioural Research	Oct-05	Aug-06	0.0	80.0	20.0	60.0	0.0	60.0			80.0
FS1011	Vehicle Environmental Standards for Night-Time Operations	Oct-06	Oct-06	0.0	90.0	20.0	70.0	10.0	80.0			100.0
FS1012	Guidelines for Identifying, Assessing and managing the Environmental Impacts Arising from Trucks Using Metropolitan Road Links.	Jun-07	Jun-07	15.0	70.0	20.0	50.0	15.0	65.0			100.0
FS1072	ITS Technologies for Metropolitan Freight Vehicle Operations (RUM.HV.N.535)	Jun-04	Sep-06	0.0	60.0	12.0	48.0	0.0	48.0			60.0
FS1152	Freight Forecasting and Analysis – scoping study	Jun-06	Aug-06	0.0	30.0	10.0	20.0	0.0	20.0			30.0
FS1179	Heavy Vehicle Access Management Workshop	Jul-06	Jul-06	0.0	30.0	15.0	15.0	0.0	15.0			30.0
FS1180	Improving the Transparency of Regulatory (Heavy Vehicle Access) Decision Making	Aug-06	Aug-06	0.0	15.0	0.0	15.0	0.0	15.0			15.0
FS1181	Review of Mass Concessions	Jun-06	Aug-06	0.0	20.0	20.0	0.0	0.0	0.0			20.0

NEW PROJECTS 2006-07 - STRATEGIC												
FS1214	Freight Routes in Urban and Rural Areas (Scoping Study)	Jun-07	Jun-07					75.0	75.0		75.0	
FS1215	Managing High Wide Loads	Jun-07	Jun-07					45.0	45.0		45.0	
NEW PROJECTS 2006-07 - OTHER												
FO1332	Development of a Road Network for B-Triples (COAG)	Jun-07	Jun-07					50.0	50.0		50.0	
FO1333	Road Transport Compliance and Enforcement - Monitoring and Reporting (COAG)	Jun-07	Jun-07					100.0	100.0	30.0	130.0	
PROGRAM MANAGEMENT												
	Program assistant salary				45.0	45.0		45.0	45.0			
	Travel				15.0	15.0		15.0	15.0			
	Accommodation				5.0	5.0		5.0	5.0			
	Meeting and venue				5.0	5.0		5.0	5.0			
	Development of project proposals				5.0	5.0		5.0	5.0			
	Ancillary				5.0	5.0		5.0	5.0			
	Freight & heavy vehicle project management				0.0	0.0		0.0	0.0			
TOTAL FREIGHT BUDGET					590.9	214.6	278.0	375.0	653.0	30.0	0.0	1040.6

Freight Program



Program Flowchart

