



Institute of
Public Works
Engineering
Australia
(NSW Division)



IPWEA (NSW) ROADS & TRANSPORT DIRECTORATE

2011 NSW Local Roads Congress Regional Transport Planning – Sustainable Local Roads

The Roads & Transport Directorate is holding the 2012 NSW Local Roads Congress on Tuesday 8th May 2012 in conjunction with the IPWEA (NSW) annual Conference on 9th May 2012. The Congress is aimed at Elected Representatives across NSW and deals with policy issues rather than technical detail.

The 2012 Congress will deal with, in particular, the part that Local Government should be playing in regional transport planning and freight management. Both the Congress and the Conference will deal with transport planning, asset management, higher mass limits and local roads, transport management and the present level of road funding.

Special Promotion

The Roads and Transport Directorate has a Special Promotion this year – Councillors attend free with a paying delegate. The Councillor's registration includes the Local Roads Congress (Tue 8 May) Welcome Reception (Mon 7 May) and Excellence Awards Dinner (Tue 8 May). If your council is a member of the Roads and Transport Directorate your registration includes a 2nd complimentary registration for a Councillor.

Details for the Congress are:

Date: Tuesday 8th May 2012

Venue: Novotel Pacific Bay Hotel – Coffs Harbour

Registration is available at:

<http://www.eiseverywhere.com/ehome/index.php?eventid=38239>

Detailed Programme is available at:

<http://higherlogicdownload.s3.amazonaws.com/IPWEA/c80d4d3f-93d5-4d37-8c7c-2816970b2bd8/UploadedImages/Events%20NSW/2012%20NSW%20Conference/2012%20NSW%20Local%20Roads%20Congress.pdf>

Speed Limit Reviews

Roads and Maritime Services (RMS) and the NSW Centre for Road Safety (CRS) have completed speed limit reviews on 100 speed zones across NSW. The review has resulted in 37 fewer speed zones across the state. The review was conducted on the top 100 corridors nominated by the community through the Safer Roads NSW website by the end of November 2011.

RMS and CRS carried out 131 reviews to ensure speed limits on the top 100 corridors were the safest and most appropriate for the road conditions. The reviews were carried out in accordance with the revised NSW speed zoning guidelines and assessed a number of factors including road environment, traffic characteristics, crash profiles and community submissions.

Great Lakes Glass Sand Project

While travelling down the North Coast for the recent Regional Forums, I was able to inspect the final outcomes of the two construction projects carried out by Great Lakes Council. The first photo shows Tuloa Avenue Hawks Nest which used glass sand in the production of the asphalt wearing course. The last photo shows Glen Ora Road, Nabcac which used glass sand in the gravel pavement. The sign confirms that 100 tonnes of glass was used on these projects. Both are indistinguishable from outcomes produced using sand sourced from quarried sources.

The Roads & Transport Directorate will continue to report test results and observations from these sites over the next five years.



NSW Long Term Transport Master Plan

A reminder that a discussion paper has been released by Transport for NSW as part of the planning process. Details on how to make a submission and more information about the NSW Long Term Transport Master Plan process is available at:

www.transportmasterplan.nsw.gov.au

Details of the NSW Long Term Transport Master Plan regional forums may be found at the Transport for NSW website at:

<http://haveyoursay.nsw.gov.au/article/have-your-say-at-regional-forums>

The Roads & Transport Directorate will be making a submission on behalf of IPWEA (NSW). Any comments from Councils on the current discussion paper would be appreciated so that as wide a range of views as possible can be canvassed.

Road Safety Panel Meeting

The IPWEA Road Safety Panel met on 13th March, 2012. The issues discussed included:

IPWEA Road Safety Strategy

- IPWEA update on current issues
- Future of the Road Safety Panel and links to Local Government
- Relationship with the Roads & Transport Directorate

RMS Report

RMS provided the following information:

- The Local Government Road Safety Program Funding Agreement, signed between local councils and RMS Regions, has been extended until 30 June 2013.
- An evaluation of the 2010/11 pilot has been completed. A briefing on the recommendations in the evaluation report is being prepared for the Minister for Roads and Ports.
- Road Safety Register

Road Safety Forum

- To be held on Tuesday 8th May in Coffs Harbour. Registration and programme details are available at: http://www.ipwea.org.au/NewSouthWales/NSW_Education/EventDescription/?CalendarEventKey=2f958823-bbec-444e-b3b0-eb2358a6ece9
- Program and Speakers
- Awards for Excellence Judging

Submissions To Government

Since the last meeting of the Panel the following submissions have been made by IPWEA:

- National Road Safety Strategy
- Staysafe Committee enquiry in to school zones

Copies of the submissions are available on the IPWEA website.

Pavement Condition Assessment Manual

Late in 2010 the South East IPWEA Group noted that there is a gap in the asset management systems and knowledge of most Councils, with few having fully developed appropriate condition assessment criteria for their road and bridge network aligned to the new Department of Local Government five point condition assessment score card (excellent, good, fair, poor and very poor). There is a significant opportunity not only to lift the standard of criteria used but also the level of understanding and education of engineers working in this key area through information sharing, and capacity building.

Improvements in this area will aid engineers to lead the debate with confidence and assist their Councils through incorporating condition assessment as one of the key elements of decision making when relating proposed road expenditure to levels of service for the community, as per the International Infrastructure Management Manual.

Following the completion of this initial manual, discussions were commenced with NAMS to ascertain if the basic information contained in the manual could be developed into a NAMS Practice Note for distribution nationally. NAMS has agreed that this is a worthwhile project and work has commenced on producing the practice note.

FEEDBACK

Your comments or reactions to any of the above issues are welcomed. Please email me at: msavage@ipwea.org.au

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