

A hand holding a pen over a document, with a teal overlay.

UPDATE

From the Board



WHAT IS THE ROLE OF THE ALLIANCE BOARD?

The Roads Alliance Board is responsible for setting the strategic direction of the Roads Alliance and overseeing implementation and operations across the state.

The Board does this by:

- monitoring RRG progress and identifying opportunities to increase the strength of the Alliance
- ensuring effective governance arrangements are in place at all levels
- fostering strong working relationships between parties
- ensuring consistent outputs across Queensland
- promoting the principles of the Roads Alliance at state and national levels
- facilitating innovative programs to improve Alliance processes and supporting initiatives complimentary to Alliance outcomes.

Board membership

Alan Tesch – *Director-General, Main Roads (Chair)*

Les Ford – *Deputy Director-General, Main Roads*

Neil Doyle – *General Manager (Organisational Positioning & Stakeholder Relations), Main Roads*

Greg Hallam – *Executive Director, LGAQ*

Greg Hoffman – *Director, Policy and Representation, LGAQ*

Mark Piorkowski – *Manager, Roads Transport and Infrastructure, LGAQ*

Key Board outcomes for 2007-08

During 2007-08 the Roads Alliance Board focused on providing transitional support to local governments. This was in recognition of the significant change process and increased workloads arising from Local Government Reform.

On 7 August 2007, the Roads Alliance Board endorsed the extension of the existing Roads Alliance Memorandum of Agreement (MOA). This formalised the ongoing commitment of both spheres of government to the Alliance for 12 months, while allowing for the development of a new MOA in 2008. This new agreement is currently being developed and will take into account the outcomes of reform and resultant Alliance operational changes.



The Board also supported the ongoing development and implementation of key Alliance initiatives during this period. Key Board outcomes for this period include:

- the provision of flexibility to RRGs for program development for the period 2008-09 to 2012-13. RRGs affected by Local Government Reform had the option of electing to roll forward existing programs or develop full five-year programs
- the allocation of funds for the development of detailed specifications and cost estimates, for input into a business case considering future improvements to the Hub
- an additional one off allocation of TIDS funding to the Moreton Bay Coast and Country RRG for works arising from the Road Safety Partnership Project. All other TIDS funding to RRGs will be reconfirmed following the finalisation of RRG boundaries by the Board
- endorsement for the release of the consultation paper “Managing Queensland’s Roads – Can Main Roads and local government do it better together?” This paper was released in June 2008 and focuses on the possibilities of expanding the scope of the Roads Alliance to incorporate new models of road stewardship and delivery between Main Roads and local governments
- delivery of state-wide workshops by Roads Alliance Board Members Neil Doyle and Greg Hallam. The workshops enabled participants to discuss a range of issues associated with the operations of the Roads Alliance and the consultation Paper – “Managing Queensland’s Roads”. Feedback on this paper is requested by 19 September 2008.

Top L – R:

Alan Tesch – Director-General, Main Roads (Chiar)

Greg Hallam – Executive Director, LGAQ

Greg Hoffman – Director, Policy and Representation, LGAQ

Les Ford Deputy Director-General, Main Roads

Neil Doyle – General Manager (Organisational Positioning and Stakeholder Relations), Main Roads

Mark Piorkowski – Manager, Roads Transport and Infrastructure, LGAQ

Above:

Roads Alliance Board Members Greg Hallam and Alan Tesch, signing the Extension to the Roads Alliance Memorandum of Agreement

Future agenda

The Roads Alliance Board is committed to ensuring the Alliance partnership continues to mature and promote best practice in road management.

This commitment is underpinned by a forward strategy based on consolidating, improving and expanding the Roads Alliance framework.

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Looking Forward





Above:
Alliance members discussing possible new road stewardship and delivery models

In light of the changes to many local government boundaries and the subsequent review of Main Roads district boundaries, the forward focus for the Roads Alliance will continue to be on consolidation, increasing the scope of Alliance activities and seeking real measurable gains. This will require all existing and new RRGs to review key elements of the Alliance such as the LRRS network (including funding commitments), investment strategies, asset management systems and processes, capability plans, program development processes and any JP&RS arrangements.

Whilst a review of these activities will provide a solid foundation for RRGs to move forward with their operations, a key principle of the Roads Alliance remains the need for continuous improvement. For this reason, over the next 18 months the Roads Alliance is committed to reviewing all aspects of the Alliance framework to improve current state-wide arrangements and RRG practices.

Activities will focus on renewed state-wide strategies for asset management and JP&RS. A comprehensive review of program development processes will occur, including the development of improved models and new tools for program management. This will support the achievement of measurable efficiency gains and savings through JP&RS and strengthen the direction of dollars to highest priority projects. The staged implementation of the Roads Alliance Hub will enable RRGs to upload data and report on the LRRS. The TIDS funding arrangements will be streamlined to ensure TIDS funding is tightly aligned to outcomes sought and to make allocations and acquittals easier. All necessary Roads Alliance documentation will be reviewed to reflect these new and improved strategies and

distributed to RRG members. Most importantly, in keeping with the goal of “improving”, the Roads Alliance will focus heavily on building the capability of RRGs. This will be supported by a requirement for new RRG capability plans and regular capability progress reporting.

In parallel with the above activities, the Roads Alliance Board will continue discussions with RRGs and other relevant stakeholders about the possibilities of expanding the Roads Alliance into new areas of road stewardship and delivery between local governments and Main Roads, to achieve substantial gains in efficiency and effectiveness. Participation in these new arrangements is a longer term goal of the Roads Alliance and is discussed in more detail in the next section of this Progress Report.

In summary, the future agenda of the Roads Alliance is a busy but exciting one. The key elements of the Alliance must be consolidated by existing and new RRGs, but the Roads Alliance Board is committed to ensuring that these key elements are improved upon, implemented successfully and utilised to their full capacity by each RRG member. Additionally, the prospect of expanding the Roads Alliance to a new level is also very real. The Roads Alliance Board is committed to fully exploring the advantages and disadvantages of any new arrangements for the better use of resources and available funding, and recognises that this will require thorough engagement with RRGs before any final decisions to proceed are made.