

# THE ROADS ALLIANCE

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## PROGRESS REPORT 2009/10



LOCAL GOVERNMENT  
ASSOCIATION  
OF QUEENSLAND LTD



Queensland  
Government



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## MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR

Congratulations on a year of success, new ideas and continuing to utilise the collaborative culture we have all worked to build. The progress made in 2009-10 is a tribute to the strength and value of the Roads Alliance.

The 2009-10 Progress Report highlights our success stories, and it is pleasing to see this great partnership still being useful and innovative after more than seven years of operation. This year we introduce a Regional Road Group (RRG) Progress Update, that details group achievements across the Alliance core functions of; Operational Effectiveness, Program Development, Road Safety, Joint Purchasing and Resource Sharing (JP&RS), and Asset Management. Case studies give a detailed look at RRGs who are leading the way in these areas. We also focus on the future direction of the Alliance and the report brings to you feedback from Alliance members across Queensland.

I congratulate all Roads Alliance stakeholders on their significant achievements. These outcomes, both large and small, are delivering significant benefits that help us to better manage the road network. Recent examples include:

- In North Queensland, RRG Program Coordinator, Owen Montgomery is leading the group to gain momentum in all core product areas.
  - Scenic Valleys' newly appointed RRG Chair, Cr Graham Moon and Technical Committee Chair Gerry Franzmann are leading Scenic Valleys' search for creative regional solutions in both JP&RS and road safety.
  - The ongoing, collaborative contribution of the Transport and Main Roads (TMR) team in Warwick, including Neil Brown, Kevin Wright, John Corcut and Geoff Crozier, to the Southern Border RRG.
  - Over the past few years, the members of the Southern RRG have jointly funded an Omnitrans Regional Traffic Model and are currently investigating a proposal to incorporate travel survey data into the model.
  - Far North Queensland RRG is working on a number of Integrated Transport Plans and will be undertaking an assessment to ensure the group's Local Roads of Regional Significance (LRRS) are complementary to these plans.
  - The councils of North West Queensland RRG have recognised the challenge of operating regionally over such a large and diverse area, and have welcomed Gerard Read on board as Technical Coordinator to work closely with engineers on Roads Alliance business.
  - In previous years, RRGs have been asked to look at the way Transport Infrastructure Development Scheme (TIDS) funding was spent. This year sees a marked increase in expenditure against TIDS allocations. All members can be proud of this outcome and I thank you for your concerted efforts in this area.
- The past year was marked by change for all members of the Alliance, with the amalgamation of TMR and the introduction of the Local Government Association of Queensland's (LGAQ's) Assist, Advance and Advocacy streams.
- The key message is that the Alliance continues because it delivers value to the participating organisations. I thank all RRGs for your commitment. I also thank the LGAQ for their ongoing support, despite all of these changes, in supporting this partnership. The relationship that has been forged between TMR and LGAQ, based on trust and commitment, is one of the key enablers of the Alliance and one in which I am very proud to be a part.
- As always, we strive to improve the Roads Alliance. In 2010-11 TMR and the LGAQ will continue to support RRGs to continue to build capability and capacity. The RRG capability agreements and evaluation will support this by assisting groups to identify and implement capability improvement actions to develop Operational Effectiveness, Program Development, Asset Management,

Road Safety and JP&RS.

As the Alliance enters its eighth year of operation, it is pleasing to note the broader efforts of councils to leverage this collaborative framework for improvements to the regional transport network. A recent example included the development of the 'Partnering for Prosperity' funding submission, facilitated through the Outback RRG. This submission to the federal government brought together the efforts of the seven councils of Central West Queensland and TMR.

This submission was the catalyst for the recently established Regional Safety and Development Program (RSDP). This program makes available an additional \$30 million in TIDS funding per year until 2013-14 for the upgrade of the regional road network. RSDP funding will assist RRGs to respond to the growing pressures on the road network in rural and remote areas and in regions where considerable economic activity is occurring.

As a new financial year begins, the Roads Alliance farewells long serving Board Member Les Ford. Les has retired from TMR and his position on the Roads Alliance Board. His retirement brings to an end his 43 year career with the public service and his five year tenure on the Board. We are indebted to Les' leadership, professionalism and support and I wish him well for a long and happy retirement.

The Board welcomes Eddie Peters who joins us as the next TMR Board member. I look forward to the contribution and knowledge he brings to the team. Meet Eddie on page 6.

2010-11 will be a busy year for all Alliance members, and I am excited by the opportunities that lie ahead. The amalgamation of TMR provides opportunities to expand the scope of the Alliance to potentially incorporate broader transport elements. I encourage RRGs to embrace this opportunity and welcome your ideas on how this broader focus can be integrated into Alliance operations.

As always, collaboration and communication are at the core of the Roads Alliance. The achievements of 2009-10 provide a solid foundation for the Alliance to continue to build regional capability and capacity to successfully manage the Queensland road network.



**ALAN TESCH**  
Roads Alliance Board Chair

# ROADS ALLIANCE PROFILE

The Department of Transport and Main Roads (TMR), the Local Government Association of Queensland (LGAQ) and local government voluntarily partner in the Roads Alliance to invest in and regionally manage the Queensland road network.

The Alliance, established in 2002, addresses challenges on Queensland roads and aligns the focus of both spheres of government on the Queensland road task. This partnership builds on the strong history of collaboration between the department and local government and focuses on delivering improved value from all available resources.

Fundamental to the Alliance is the transfer of real power over funds and choices to RRGs. RRGs drive regional outcomes and seek efficiencies in Program Development, Road Safety, Joint Purchasing and Resource Sharing (JP&RS) and Asset Management.

### The objectives of the Roads Alliance are to:

- maximise the economic, social and environmental benefits of our joint investments in the state's road network
- achieve maximum efficiencies through joint and innovative approaches to road stewardship, road network planning, project scheduling, purchasing and resources sharing

- improve road management and delivery capability through increased training, advanced technology and knowledge transfer
- optimise safety for all road users
- maximise the investment by all parties on the Queensland road network.

### Benefits

The Roads Alliance seeks to improve state and local road stewardship and deliver a better quality road network. The collaborative approach to achieving this objective, regardless of road ownership, has been acknowledged as a best practice model with the potential for replication nationally across many areas of public policy.

Regional planning and delivery of the road network through the Alliance is providing benefits to government, communities and business and industry:

- ongoing funding of \$63 million to local governments, in addition to special funding allocations, such as the recently created \$30 million Regional Safety and Development Program

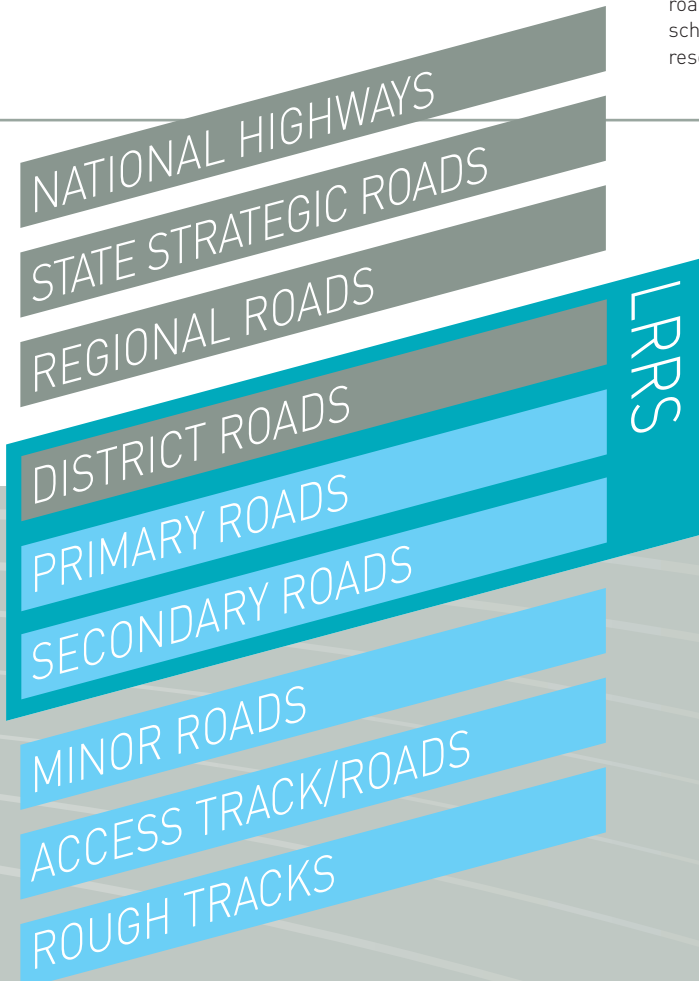


Figure 1 Identifying Local Roads of Regional Significance (LRRS)

- State Government controlled roads
- Local Roads of Regional Significance
- Local Government controlled roads

- a transfer of authority over Local Roads of Regional Significance (LRRS) funding to RRGs, providing councils with greater flexibility and control over road network planning, delivery and funding allocations
- a forum for sharing knowledge, skills and ideas
- improved local government capability and capacity in Program Development, Road Safety, Asset Management and JP&RS
- a forum for state and local government to jointly resolve challenges and identify opportunities for increased efficiencies and better expenditure of road network funding
- greater road network consistency across council boundaries
- certainty of funding which leads to job creation
- a better and more reliable road network that enables greater social inclusion which is particularly important for connecting regional and isolated communities

- improved access within a region to services, employment and education
- improved access to a region which supports tourism, economic growth, and business and industry.

**The Local Roads of Regional Significance network**

The LRRS network is approximately 33,600km in length and is made up of roads of similar function owned by state and local government. Figure 1 sets out the roads included in the network.

The establishment of the LRRS classification was one of the key enablers of the Roads Alliance. It was developed in recognition that

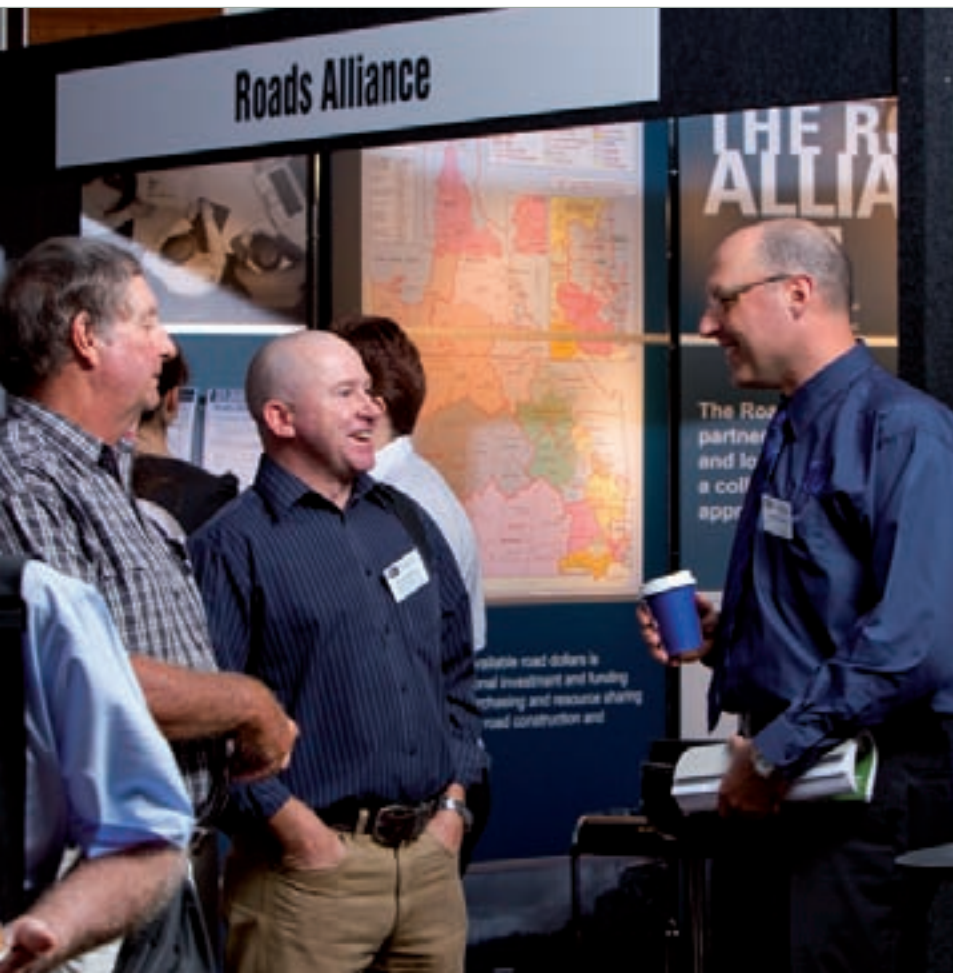
network is jointly managed. TMR and local government are committed to maintaining, in real terms, the normal level of expenditure on the LRRS network to continue to meet community needs.

“It has been wonderful to see the RRG process mature into an open collaboration between Western Downs Regional Council and TMR.

The results are a fully prioritised five-year works program on our LRRS network that balances the needs of the community, existing businesses and the rapidly expanding mining and energy sector. This has resulted in funds being redirected to add value to a number of projects on state-controlled roads, resulting in better outcomes for the residents of our region. We look forward to the continuation of this process to further enhance the effectiveness of our LRRS network.”+



**Graham Cook**  
Western Downs RRG, Technical Committee Chair



“The Brisbane Metro Alliance has provided a good framework and formalises the opportunity to build and maintain organisational relationships to enable a one network approach.

While it takes a determined effort, the rewards for industry and community of a joint approach to planning and network operation can be substantial.”+



**Miles Vass**  
Brisbane Metro Alliance, Technical Committee Chair.

### The Roads Alliance Board and State-wide Governance Arrangements

The Roads Alliance is based on trust, collaboration and cooperation. This approach between state and local government is evident throughout Roads Alliance governance functions.

### Roads Alliance Board

The Roads Alliance Board is the decision making body of the Alliance, consisting of an equal number of representatives from TMR and the LGAQ (representing local government). The Board sets the strategic direction of the Roads Alliance and oversees implementation and operations across Queensland. The role of Chairperson is rotated between TMR and LGAQ on an annual basis.

### Board Membership

- Alan Tesch – Associate Director-General, TMR (Chair)
- Eddie Peters – General Manager, Assets and Operations, TMR
- Graham Fraine – General Manager, Strategic Policy, TMR
- Greg Hallam – Chief Executive Officer, LGAQ
- Greg Hoffman – General Manager, Advocacy, LGAQ
- Simone Talbot – Manager, Advocacy, (Roads, Transport & Economics), LGAQ

### Regional Road Groups

Regional Road Groups (RRGs) are the primary decision making bodies of the Roads Alliance. They are responsible for the management of the LRRS network, including all investment and maintenance decisions on these roads as well as collaborating to address wider transport issues affecting Queensland. Membership typically comprises a TMR Regional Director and regional groupings of local governments, of which mayors are predominantly the representative on the RRG.

Each RRG has a constitution which outlines their individual governance structure and operational arrangements.

## Introducing Eddie Peters, TMR Board member

Eddie has worked for TMR for over 30 years, in many regional locations across Queensland. His experience includes major engineering projects, managing the development of Queensland's first Road Network Strategy (recognised as best practice across Australia) and leading the management of roads business and infrastructure programs in the two largest operational regions; South Coast and Metropolitan.

In his current position, Eddie is the General Manager, Assets & Operations, where he oversees the regions as they deliver and manage the state's road system along with other elements of the transport network. He provides direct support to the TMR Chief Operations Officer on operational matters.

Eddie's leadership, expertise and experience in TMR Regional Offices provides the ideal background and knowledge for his new role on the Roads Alliance Board. Eddie is a strong advocate for the Alliance and has expressed a keen desire to help influence the Alliance's future direction. The Roads Alliance Board and the Roads Alliance Project Team (RAPT) will greatly benefit from his leadership, direction and advice. +



**Eddie Peters**  
Roads Alliance  
Board Member.

This year sees a new face on the Roads Alliance Board. The Board farewells and thanks Les Ford and welcomes Eddie Peters as the newest TMR Board member.





**Roads Alliance Board members;**  
 Graham Fraine,  
 Eddie Peters,  
 Alan Tesch,  
 Simone Talbot and  
 Greg Hoffman.  
 Inset; Greg Hallam

**Technical Committees**

Each RRG is supported by a Technical Committee, comprising local government and TMR technical staff from that region.

**Steering Committees**

Steering Committees are established as required to provide strategic direction, governance and oversight; normally for the development of key Roads Alliance initiatives. They may consist of any combination of TMR management, LGAQ management, and local government elected members or management representatives.

“The Roads Alliance has proven to be a great tool for sharing information and knowledge amongst the councils within the RRG.

By taking a regional, co-ordinated and sharing based approach, all members are receiving the benefits of the Roads Alliance program.”+



**Gerry Franzmann**  
 Scenic Valleys RRG,  
 Technical Committee  
 Chair.