1 Introduction to CBA6

The User Guide provides system users with an authoritative understanding and instruction for using TMR’s CBA6. An important part of the User Guide has been the inclusion of the case studies. The case studies have been carefully designed with the intention of assisting system users to undertake economic evaluations of road projects of different types within the CBA6 modules. The User Guide also provides an interpretation of the results generated by CBA6 and has an array of screenshots to demonstrate the application of the tool.
1.1 About CBA6

CBA6 is TMR’s designated road project evaluation tool. CBA6 has the technical capability to undertake economic evaluations of TMR projects. CBA6 has been developed and tested by a diverse multi-disciplinary project team consisting of software developers, engineers and economists.

CBA6 was developed by TMR to make the CBA process as accessible and transparent as possible, and to provide an efficient means of processing a large volume of calculations that even small, simple projects entail. CBA6 is not always an all-encompassing tool for every road project; some projects may require the use of CBA6 in conjunction with spreadsheets or other software tools. Guidance is provided for more complex applications of CBA6.

The system user will have to exercise judgement when designing an evaluation. CBA6 is a tool used to assist in the evaluation process. It is necessary to define the problem, cost the potential solutions and gather traffic estimates, before using CBA6.

Input data for CBA6 needs to be acquired from sources such as ARMIS or SIDRA. The system user may be required to manually calculate some of the input data, such as traffic composition and traffic growth. CBA6 processes most of the benefit calculations that were such an onerous part of manual procedures set out in the previous manual. CBA6 has been designed to allow the system user to systematically conduct CBA.

1.1.1 Software description

CBA6 is a PC-based tool which automates the process of performing CBA for road infrastructure projects. It’s a Windows application that runs stand-alone and has been developed by TMR using MS Visual Basic 6.0 and MSDE database environment.

1.1.2 History of CBA6

The Cost-Benefit Analysis Manual for Road Projects was first produced in 1993. At that time, QTMR CBA procedures relied almost exclusively on manual calculation. The introduction of computer software in 1994 largely eliminated the need for manual calculation and streamlined the CBA process.

The CBA manual produced in 1999 incorporated the use of software with the introduction of CBA4. This edition of the manual incorporates case studies based on the use of the current version of TMR’s project evaluation tool CBA6.

Since the previous CBA manual was produced, there have been several significant developments in the field of road project evaluation. These developments include the release of the (2006) ATC material and the (2005) Austroads Guide to Project Evaluation. Substantial efforts have been made to harmonise CBA6 with other state-based project evaluation software models. Since 2005, TMR has focussed considerable efforts in harmonising the results generated in CBA6 with HDM-4. CBA6 has been updated to include the necessary calculations and features consistent with ATC guidelines.

1.1.3 Scope of CBA6

CBA6 has been developed with the capability to undertake economic evaluations for a wide range of road projects. The tool also has the capability to be used to undertake evaluations, or alternatively, partial evaluations of road links in urban environments, for example the Pacific Motorway in south-east Queensland. In these cases, system users will need to exercise caution, as the tool may not be suitable to operate in urban environments.

Some of the more complex rural project types that CBA6 is equipped to undertake, but is not limited to, include diversions, bypass projects and incremental projects. CBA6 is not equipped to undertake evaluations for rail projects or upgrades of other modal infrastructure. For these types of evaluations, system users will be required to obtain specialist advice from either the CBA Team or relevant experts.
1.2 Relationship with other software

This section aims to provide system users with some appreciation of other software tools that can be used in association with CBA6, and tools that prioritise road investment decisions on the basis of economic criteria. This section is not intended to provide system users with a detailed guide/explanation of these models, but to inform them of the available software models, and provide some information on their relevance with reference to the operation and use of CBA6 and road project evaluation.

1.2.1 ARMIS

ARMIS is essentially a system for collecting and storing road-related data, auditing its quality and currency, and presenting that data into information formats which assist decision making by TMR. ARMIS provides strategic and operational management information for the planning, design, construction, maintenance and management of the state’s road network, and is fundamental to TMR in supporting the *Queensland Transport and Roads Investment Program*. The information supplied through ARMIS is a key input for road project evaluations using CBA6. ARMIS also incorporates a suite of presentation and analysis tools which are supported by a ‘data warehouse’ of roads information, the Roads Information Data Centre (RIDC). ARMIS data is summarised in the RIDC and integrated with a broad range of internal and external data sources. Presentation tools provided for accessing RIDC include ChartView, MapView, Roads Information Online (RIO), ARMIS GIS and any other Open Database Connectivity (ODBC) compliant tool, such as Microsoft® Excel or Access. ChartView is a useful tool when obtaining data and information to undertake a road project evaluation using CBA6.

1.2.2 DVR

TMR annually collects digital video data for the sealed road network from a network survey vehicle. Four directions are captured - forward, rear and both sides. Digital Video Road Viewer (DVR Viewer) is a viewer program that plays digital road videos so that they can be viewed on a PC screen. A system user can choose to simultaneously play any or all of the directional views and easily arrange their layout by dragging and dropping.

DVR Viewer also includes tools for taking measurements of features in the video image, adding text annotations, and attaching images to video frames.

The use of digital videos avoids cumbersome manual methods using video tapes, and opens the way to integration of the viewer with other applications. Currently, integrated applications include:

- SCENARIO
- ChartView

The different road video views can be analysed to collect information on road features for inventory purposes, and on the condition of the roads including defects such as cracks and pot-holes. DVR is a useful tool when obtaining data and information to undertake a road project evaluation using CBA6.

1.2.3 SCENARIO

SCENARIO is a decision support tool used by asset managers in developing maintenance strategies for road networks. It is a rule-based system, where system users have the freedom to develop their own rules or to adopt corporate rules. A corporate pavement condition deterioration model is also supplied, however system users have the freedom to create their own local model. SCENARIO’s pavement management system analysis is complemented with reporting capabilities and budget constraint analysis. SCENARIO is predominantly used by RAM and gives the system user a detailed profile of maintenance expenditure of a predefined time. This is vital to include in the project analysis, especially for the accurate specification of the base case. SCENARIO calculates three economic criteria: NPV, BCR and IBCR.
1.2.4 HDM-4

HDM-4 is an internationally developed software tool which allows system users to evaluate alternative and competing maintenance strategies. The tool has been used by the World Bank primarily to conduct economic appraisals of maintenance strategies for rural roads in Indonesia and parts of South East Asia. The software model has been licensed and adapted for use in Australian conditions by ARRB. The inputs used in HDM-4 are quite complex and generally require the system user to possess an engineering background together with a detailed knowledge of pavement/asset management. HDM-4 software produces economic decision criteria, NPV and an IRR for each maintenance strategy. HDM-4 contains one module with the capability to undertake an economic appraisal of rural road projects.

For more information on the above software models, please contact Road Asset Management Branch, TMR.

1.2.5 SIDRA INTERSECTION evaluation and design

SIDRA INTERSECTION is an advanced micro-analytical traffic evaluation tool that employs lane-by-lane and vehicle drive cycle models. SIDRA INTERSECTION is a renowned software package used worldwide for intersection capacity, level of service and performance analysis by traffic design, operations and planning professionals.

Using SIDRA INTERSECTION, the system user can evaluate and compare capacity, level of service and performance of alternative treatments involving signalised intersections, roundabouts, two-way stop and give way (yield) sign control, all-way stop sign control, single point urban interchanges, signalised midblock crossings for pedestrians, and all-in-one package. Intersections with up to eight legs, each as a two-way road, one-way approach or one-way exit, can be modelled with ease. SIDRA INTERSECTION is available from Akcelik & Associates Pty Ltd.

http://www.sidrasolutions.com/akcelik_company.htm

1.2.6 NIMPAC software tools

All road project evaluation software models in use in Australia are based on NIMPAC or its immediate predecessors and are equipped to calculate road user and travel time costs. NIMPAC is known as the NAASRA Improved Model for Project Assessment and Costing. Austroads was previously known as NAASRA. All NIMPAC-based software models have been harmonised with each other and with the international software HDM-4. Each of the NIMPAC-based models generates estimates of road user costs at an individual component level.
1.3 Installing CBA6

This section covers aspects of CBA6 installation from a system user's viewpoint. It explains how to acquire CBA6, who will install it, requirements by CBA6 on where it's installed and how, TMR Terms of Use, and for external system users the License Agreement. The chapter also describes what is installed and where, demo install, re-install and some housekeeping.

Software request and installation of CBA6 is very simple. After submitting a CBA6 software request form, the CBA Team will register a license in the Tracker system and provide an intranet link to the system user via email. The link enables a download of the CBA6 install package to anywhere on the TMR computer network. Local IT staff will download and install the software package onto a system user’s PC.

1.3.1 How to request CBA6 installation

To provide ongoing updates to pricing models and maintain a consistent version of the tool, the CBA Team needs to maintain a contact register of current system users. The register will assist in planning ongoing training and communication in CBA-related topics. This is one of several reasons why system users need to fax or email their details in a software request form. The form is available from the CBA intranet site http://RAMS/CBA. The request form includes an acceptance of CBA6 Terms of Use, which outlines the terms under which the tool may be used at TMR for road evaluations.

External parties (e.g. contractors) who provide CBA for TMR may also request use of the tool. They can send a request through the region, who will contact the CBA Team by email and submit the request form. External parties are also subject to the Terms of Use plus a License Agreement as a condition for use. As a general rule, external parties and consultants need to be pre-qualified in economic studies.

The process for obtaining pre-qualification is detailed in Manual - Consultants for Engineering Projects available through Contracts and Standards Branch, TMR. Policy information is available on TMR's intranet site.

System users who just want to try out the tool, can request local IT support to download and install the demo install from the CBA intranet website. The demo install is fully functional, but limited to 30 days before it expires.

1.3.2 License and registration

When the 30-day period of a demo install expires, CBA6 will ask for license and registration code. A demo install can then continue if such details are obtained and entered, but this is not the usual approach for the majority of system users.

Instead, a CBA6 install requested as described in 1.3.3, will not require the system user to register or enter any license details. The license code registration is built in and automatic, and each system user is registered when a request form is submitted.

Registration credentials are checked automatically each time a system user logs into CBA6, since each license has an expiry date, typically one year. After expiry, the system user needs to contact the CBA Team and request renewal, which is easily done by email to CBATeam@tmr.qld.gov.au.

1.3.3 Installation requirements

In summary, CBA6 will install on any standard TMR PC without any additional requirements.
CBA6 needs to be installed on a Windows PC with the TMR Standard Operating Environment (SOE) i.e. a PC supplied and maintained by TMR. This is currently a Windows XP sp3 environment with MS Office 2003. There are no other specific requirements, however CBA6 runs a local database, and it’s advisable to have at least 1 Gb RAM (Random Access Memory).

CBA6 has only been tested on Windows XP. It has not been tested, and is not supported, on Windows PC operating systems that are later than Windows XP.

The PC may be a laptop, and the install as well as the using of CBA6 can be without continuous access to the TMR computer network.

Downloading the install package requires access to TMR’s intranet network i.e. using a location of http://rams/cba brings up a TMR web page. If there is no such access, an installation CD needs to be supplied by the CBA Team.

CBA6 has not been tested to run on a PC that has a database management system later than MSDE 8.00 SP3. For instance a PC with other software, that uses the later version of Microsoft SQL Express, may install and work but is not supported. This can sometimes be the case with non-departmental PCs.

Finally, as also noted in the instructions displayed during the install, the Windows configuration setting found at Control Panel—Administrative Tools—Services—Server needs to be enabled and started during the installation, after which it may be restored to the previous setting.

### 1.3.4 Install process

Only software available for installation via the Novell Windows can be installed by system users themselves. CBA6, for technical reasons, has to be installed by IT support with administrative rights on the PC.

For re-installs, the system user must first ensure that any existing CBA6 evaluations are first exported, as the re-install will delete existing databases.

### 1.3.5 Installation for TMR staff

The following steps will be used in the install for TMR staff.

1. The system user visits the CBA intranet website, downloads the CBA software request form and reads the CBA Terms of Use document.

2. The system user fills in the request form and sends a fax (ref. intranet website or departmental phone book) or scan/email to the CBATeam@tmr.qld.gov.au.

3. The CBA Team registers a license for the system user using the RAMS Tracker registration interface and distributes the install package. The install will appear as a compressed file on the TMR intranet, accessible through a network link which is emailed to the system user.

4. The system user, or local IT support, downloads and decompresses the package file from TMR’s intranet using the supplied download link.

5. Local IT support will use the information contained in the CBAInstallationReadMe.htm file, found in the downloaded compressed file, to install CBA6.

6. Additional support is available during the installation from the CBA Team.
### 1.3.6 Installation for non-TMR staff

CBA6 is sometimes made available to non-TMR staff such as contractors.

Non-TMR staff and consultants need to be pre-qualified in economic studies, to ensure consistency of use and approach in the selection of data, subjective definitions and non-automated steps of a CBA when using CBA6.

The process for obtaining pre-qualification is detailed in *Manual - Consultants for Engineering Projects* available through TMR’s Contracts and Standards Branch.

The following steps should be used to install CBA6 for non-TMR staff:

1. The system user emails CBATeam@tmr.qld.gov.au requesting a CBA6 request form, Terms of Use document and License Agreement. The request form is then returned by fax or scan/email, to the same email address.

2. The CBA Team registers a license for the system user for the requested period using the RAMS Tracker registration interface, distributes the install package and writes the package to a CD. The CD is then sent to the system user.

3. The local IT support for the system user, or a person with administrative PC rights, will use the information contained in the CBAInstallationReadMe.htm file (found in the downloaded compressed file), to install CBA6.

Non-TMR staff will need to accept and adhere to both the Terms of Use and a License Agreement which specify conditions and limitations covering TMR’s provision of access to CBA6. The process for this and the acceptance of these agreements are detailed in the CBA request form.

(the CBAInstallationReadMe.htm file, as viewed by MS Internet Explorer)

### 1.3.7 What will be installed?

The installation process will install and register several Windows components that will be located at C:\Program Files\CBA in directories under this location.

The main files will be the CBA program, some additional linked modules, export template file, crystal report template, a CBA Windows help file and two databases represented by two pairs of files: CBAProj_cases.mdf, CBAProj_cases.ldf, DMR.mdf and DMR.ldf.

The DMR files contain the TMR pricing data, road types and other common parameters for calculations such as deterioration values, accident costs, etc.

The CBAProj_cases files constitute the database for the system user’s evaluation data.

### 1.3.8 Demo installation

The Demo CBA6 is a full version of CBA6 available from TMR’s intranet site http://rams/cba under downloads. It will expire 30 days after installation and is to be used for evaluating CBA6. Once downloaded, the installation is identical to the licensed version. The installation steps are the same, starting at point 4 for TMR (1.3.5).
1.4 Housekeeping and updates

Approximately every second year, the CBA Team will distribute an update of the DMR to registered system users. This will keep pricing and variables such as fuel costs, oil, tyres etc. up to date.

The system user will update simply by replacing the existing two DMR files at C:\Program Files\CBA\Databases with those contained in the compressed distributed file.

The system user needs to do frequent backups of evaluation data, typically after major work has been entered. Departmental PCs have a network file location, the H: drive, where system users normally store data that should be secured through system backups. Using the H: drive will ensure that the data is covered by the system backup process, and can be restored in case of catastrophic failure of software or hardware.

The exported files of evaluations can be compressed and emailed when interacting with the CBA Team.

During the re-install, the existing user data will be lost and the system user will need to import their saved exported evaluations. Details about updates and new releases will be communicated through the CBA6 intranet website and newsletter.
1.5 Help and support

The CBA Intranet website http://RAMS/CBA is kept up to date with the latest information on CBA6, and maintains a regular newsletter.

The CBA Team is a dedicated support team for CBA work on TMR projects and the installation of CBA6, as well as ongoing support and advice regarding CBA issues. The team can be contacted by email on CBATeam@tmr.qld.gov.au.
2 CBA6 settings and features

This section examines the use of CBA6 including general software design and user settings. This section will outline the system settings that are used to configure CBA6 for project evaluation.
2.1 CBA6 logon and workspace

CBA6 is available in the Windows start menu or located via an icon on the desktop. The login screen displays the tool version number and user name. Once the login screen appears, CBA6 will automatically fill in the system user's Windows ID.

*Figure 1: CBA6 login screen*

Once the tool starts, the CBA6 workspace will appear and the tool is ready for use. Figure 2 shows the workspace and associated menu structure. The interface consists of a series of drop-down menus which display a list of options when highlighted. The workspace also consists of two empty folders ‘{Default}’ and ‘{Archive}’ and an 'evaluation linking' option. Some menu options are only available when a 'project' has been created. An explanation of each menu item and the workspace is shown below.

*Figure 2: CBA6 workspace*
2.2 File menu

The file menu is used for importing and exporting individual projects, database backups, creating and editing evaluation folders and exiting CBA6, see Figure 3. The remainder of Section 2.2 will discuss each of the drop-down menu options.

Figure 3: CBA6 file menu

2.2.1 Import/export evaluation files

CBA6 allows the user to export completed evaluation files to other directories, or import externally stored files into the tool for further assessment.

2.2.1.1 Export evaluation

For security purposes, all evaluation files should be exported and stored in a safe location. Reducing the number of evaluation files stored in the tool may also increase performance of the tool. The CBA6 tool can be used to export individual evaluation files or back up all evaluation files stored in the tool. The evaluation export screen is shown in Figure 4.

Figure 4: Exporting an individual evaluation

Figure 4 indicates two evaluation files to be exported. The system user selects one of these files and saves it to a secure location.
Alternatively, system users can export all projects that have been created. This form of backup is used to store completed evaluation files in a safe location. To back up completed road projects, proceed to the file menu then select ‘export all’ (from Figure 3), choose the evaluations folders that all projects will be exported from and select ‘ok’. In Figure 5 the system user can back up evaluation files created in either the ‘(default)’ or ‘(archive)’ folders. The backed up valuation will now be stored in the chosen directory (file extension *.cba).

*Figure 5: Back up completed evaluation files from project folder*

2.2.1.2 Import evaluation

System users are able to import project files from external locations using the ‘import evaluation’ option from the file menu, see Figure 6.

*Figure 6: Import individual evaluation files*

System users then select the project folder location for the imported CBA file from the CBA6 workspace, see Figure 7.
To import a number of backed up projects, the system user selects the ‘import all’ option. All files from a directory can then be imported into a project folder, see Figure 8.

Figure 8: Import all evaluation files
2.2.2 Evaluations folders

The evaluations drop-down menu can be used to create new evaluations folders, maintain the evaluations folders and rename or delete the evaluations folders.

2.2.2.1 Create new evaluations folder

CBA6 contains two folders for storing projects, the '{Default}' and '{Archive}' folders, see Figure 2. System users can add additional evaluations folders to store projects, see Figure 9.

Figure 9: Create new evaluations folder

System users may wish to create their own evaluations folder to store common projects. For example a system user could create a project folder entitled ‘Bruce Highway’ and store all project evaluation files undertaken on the Bruce Highway under this folder.

2.2.2.2 Maintain evaluations folder

Evaluations folder maintenance enables the transfer of evaluation files between project folders. In Figure 10 the ‘duplication’ evaluation could be transferred from the '{Default}' project folder to the '{Archive}' evaluations folder.

Figure 10: Evaluations folder maintenance
2.2.2.3 Rename evaluations folder

To rename an evaluations folder ensure a user created folder is highlighted and select the ‘rename evaluations folder’ option from the file menu, see Figure 11.

Figure 11: Rename evaluations folder

Note: The ‘{default}’ and ‘{archive}’ folders cannot be renamed.

2.2.2.4 Delete evaluations folder

To delete a user created evaluations folder select the ‘delete evaluations folder’ option from the file menu. A warning message will appear before the evaluations folder is deleted, see Figure 12.

Figure 12: Delete evaluations folder

Note: The ‘{default}’ and ‘{archive}’ folders cannot be deleted.
2.3 Evaluations menu

The evaluations menu is used to create an evaluation of a proposed road project, see Figure 13. This menu can also be used to view results of the economic evaluation of a specific project or to link several projects together using an incremental or linking analysis. The evaluations menu is explained in detail in Section 3.

Figure 13: CBA6 evaluations menu
2.4 Graphs menu

The graphs menu is shown in Figure 14. Line or bar graphs of project results data can be created through the graphs menu. Graphing is discussed further in Section 4.8.

Figure 14: Graph menu
2.5 Reports menu

Various reports detailing the results from the CBA can be viewed and printed through the reports menu, see Figure 15. For further information on reports, see Section 4.6.

Figure 15: Reports menu
2.6 Settings menu

The settings menu enables the system user to alter the system default data to a user-specified range, see Figure 16.

Figure 16: Settings menu

2.6.1 Traffic breakdown and period duration defaults

While undertaking an evaluation, the system user is required to enter traffic details including AADT, growth and traffic composition. The traffic breakdown and period duration defaults screen settings enable the user to enter project-specific values for more than one project at a time.

The design of CBA6 allows the system user to enter values for traffic composition in both rural and urban environments that can be used in multiple evaluations. This feature allows the system user to use the same settings on new evaluations which are located on the same link or corridor.

Figure 17: Traffic breakdown and period duration screen
Period durations are used to quantify road user costs within the intersection module of CBA6. Period duration defaults can be changed to reflect peak spreading or increases in total peak durations.

- Period 1 – morning peak
- Period 2 – afternoon peak
- Period 3 – non-peak
- Period 4 – night
- Period 5 – weekend day
- Period 6 – weekend night

*Figure 18: Description of peak periods*

Note: The total of periods 5 and 6 should add to reflect the daily weekend duration, while periods 1 to 4 should cumulatively add to 24 hours, to reflect weekday durations.

### 2.6.2 Roughness defaults

The CBA6 tool allows the advanced user to change the default road roughness limits, see Figure 19. It is recommended that specialist engineering advice be sought before altering the roughness default settings.

*Figure 19: Roughness defaults*

Note: Road roughness is displayed in NRM and can be converted from IRI using a simple conversion factor (see Appendix F of the *Technical Manual*).
2.6.3 Overtaking lane defaults

CBA6 uses a default increase in capacity after construction of the overtaking lane. The design of the tool assumes that the downstream area has an increased capacity after construction of the overtaking lane. The system user can alter the default settings. See Section 4.4 for further information on the significance of the downstream area.

Figure 20: Overtaking lane defaults – downstream area

2.6.4 Sensitivity test parameters

CBA6 contains an inbuilt sensitivity analysis within the road case report. Sensitivity analysis provides the decision maker with alternative CBA6 results based on plausible changes to key parameters in the project data inputs. The sensitivity analysis alters the fixed parameters by a default percentage and reports the resulting changes. The fixed sensitivity parameters and the default ranges are:

- Capital Costs ± 20%
- TTC ± 40%
- VOC ± 20%
- Accident Costs ± 20%

The system user may modify these ranges, using user options, to suit project-specific characteristics or to highlight the sensitivity of a particular input, e.g. capital.

As an example, TTC savings can be subject to more stringent sensitivity testing by setting the lower and upper bounds to 40%.

See Section 1.8.3 of the Theoretical Guide for further information on sensitivity testing.

Figure 21: Sensitivity test parameters
2.7 Help menu

The help menu provides a link to the CBA6 help file. The help file contains theoretical help, system help and tutorial sections. The help menu also provides a system log which can be viewed and/or sent to the CBA Team for debugging purposes, see Figure 22.

Figure 22: CBA6 help menu

2.7.1 CBA6 help

CBA6 help is a free-flowing help file created in html format that gives basic guidance and advice from within CBA6, see Figure 23. As with most help files, CBA6 help facilitates a search function, allowing the user to search by keyword for their topic of interest. Access to the CBA6 help file is available through the CBA6 desktop interface, listed under the help menu, and can be accessed through the drop-down lists. Alternatively the help file can be accessed through keyboard shortcuts following the section layout as follows:

- F1 – economic evaluation of road investment proposals
- F2 – system help
- F3 – tutorials

The help file provides the user with multiple topics of interest including a brief overview of the background of CBA and its role in evaluating road project investment.

The system help provides the user with an overview of the basic operations of the CBA6 tool including creation of basic evaluation files and explanations of the functional operation.
The tutorials section of the help file enables the user to follow systematic instructions on various types of projects available for evaluation in the CBA6 tool. Tutorials in the help file are also covered in Section 5.

*Figure 23: CBA6 help*
3 Creating an evaluation

This chapter of the User Guide identifies and describes the inputs required to create a standard evaluation. It is essential that system users be familiar with the processes described in this chapter as it is the platform for further project evaluation work while using CBA6. Processes common to all types of project evaluation are covered in this chapter.

This section outlines the process required, including when and how inputs are to be specified within CBA6, to create project evaluation files.
3.1 Create new evaluation

To begin a road project evaluation it is important that the system user has all the required information. This includes all basic entered data and a detailed understanding on the type of project the system user is attempting to evaluate (including relevant issues and method development). Once this information and understanding is attained, the system user will then be ready to undertake a new evaluation.

To create a new evaluation, go to the evaluations menu and select 'create new evaluation', see Figure 24.

Sections 3.1.1 to 3.1.12 explain the features of the 'create new evaluation' screen.

*Figure 24: Create new evaluation screen*

3.1.1 Name

Enter the name of the new project into this field. There is a 20-character limit. For example, '85-10c-42' or 'overtaking lane upgrade'.

3.1.2 Region

System users should select the region where the project is geographically located from the drop-down menu. These regions are:
• Central West
• Darling Downs
• Far North
• Fitzroy
• Mackay/Whitsunday
• Metropolitan
• North Coast
• Northern
• North West
• South Coast
• South West
• Wide Bay/Burnett.

Note: The selection of region has no bearing on the results of the CBA.

3.1.3 Description

The description of a new project, including the type, is entered into the ‘description’ field. For example, ‘2 km head-to-head overtaking lane’ or ‘timber bridge replacement’.

3.1.4 Location

This field enables the system user to provide more specific information on the location of a project. For example, ‘2 km west of Bundaberg’ or alternatively, the chainage of the road could be used.

3.1.5 Comments

The system user can use the ‘comments’ field to provide generic information about a project or any other relevant information that needs to be mentioned. For example, ‘this project involves several overtaking lanes’.

3.1.6 Road class

There are four categories of functional road class. The corresponding class of a project should be selected from:
• national
• state strategic
• regional
• district.
3.1.7 Zone

The four types of zones that can be selected in the drop-down menu are:

- dry reactive
- dry non-reactive
- wet reactive
- wet non-reactive.

These zones reflect soil types and weather conditions within a project section. The selected zone alters the deterioration rates of pavement types. Pavement deterioration is covered in further detail in Section 5.1.

3.1.8 Evaluation type

A new evaluation can be created from the following options:

- based on existing evaluation
- new intersection evaluation
- new road evaluation.

3.1.8.1 Based on existing evaluation

When system users select the ‘based on existing evaluation’ option, CBA6 will re-create an existing evaluation of their choice. It may be useful to re-create an existing evaluation to test the CBA results when changing an input variable, such as traffic volumes, see Section 4.6.3.

3.1.8.2 New intersection evaluation

CBA6 can be used to create intersection evaluation files. Intersection evaluations are shown in detail in Section 5.5.

3.1.8.3 New road evaluation

The new road evaluation option allows the system user to assess a range of road evaluation types, other than intersection evaluation. These CBA6 project modules include:

- road closures
- livestock damage
- diverting routes
- manual accident costs – detailed safety analysis
- generated traffic
- bypasses
• multiple project cases
• overtaking lanes.

Each of these modules is discussed in Section 4.6.3.

**Figure 25: Evaluation type options**

3.1.9 Evaluation period

The evaluation period includes the initial period of capital investment and the subsequent period over which the benefits of the project accrue. The evaluation period entered into this field should allow sufficient time to include design and implementation. For further detail or clarification on the evaluation period, see Section 4.1.1 of the *Theoretical Guide*.

3.1.10 Discount rate

The discount rate can be set at the appropriate rate required by the decision maker.

Note: When the system user selects ‘road class’ from the drop-down option, a default rate will be selected in the ‘discount rate’ field. The default for a national highway is 7% while state strategic, regional and district road classes are defaulted to 6%. Please seek specialist advice on the choice of discount rate. See Section 1.5 of the *Theoretical Guide* for further information.

3.1.11 Speed environment

CBA6 allows the system user to choose between a rural or urban speed environment. This selection of speed environment only alters the TTC and the average accident cost to reflect the classification; it does not provide any additional measures to quantify urban evaluations.
3.1.12 Create in evaluations folder

The 'create in evaluations folder' option enables the system user to save the newly created evaluation in a folder of their choice. System users can browse through the default folder options and also user created folders, see Figure 26.

Figure 26: Create in evaluations folder
3.2 Edit evaluation

The ‘edit evaluation’ feature is found in the evaluations menu. To change minor details originally selected in the ‘create new evaluation’ screen during the evaluation, the system user is able to use the ‘edit evaluation’ function within the CBA6 tool, see Figure 27.

Figure 27: Edit evaluation

Note: Many of these changes will have no bearing on data already entered into the evaluation. However, editing the evaluation period, environmental zone, discount rate, speed environment, average accident cost and inclusion of manual accident costs will delete much of the previously entered data.

The ‘edit evaluation’ screen for overtaking lanes shows the type of overtaking lane used in the evaluation, see Figures 87, 97 and 106.

3.2.1 Delete evaluation

To delete an evaluation, highlight the appropriate evaluation and select ‘delete evaluation’ from the evaluation menu. Select ‘yes’ and the evaluation will be removed from the workspace, see Figure 28.

Note: Both edit and delete evaluation functions can be accessed through right clicking the mouse on the selected evaluation as displayed in the node tree and then selecting the function.
3.2.2 Evaluation linking

CBA6 can be used to link a number of individual project evaluation files. For information on how to link evaluation files, see Section 4.5.1.
3.3 CBA6 workspace

The CBA6 workspace is designed for user-friendly operation, identifying all current evaluation files and encompassing a visual navigation pane on the left hand side of the interface. This navigation pane allows quick access to system user projects and provides access to individual evaluation tasks, see Figure 29.

*Figure 29: CBA6 workspace with new evaluation*

The base and project case details can be found in the navigation pane under the title of the evaluation. The node tree structures show all components of the evaluation, see Figure 29. The components are:

- road details
- road traffic data
- capital and maintenance costs
- accident and other costs.

The details of each component screen are discussed further in Sections 3.4 to 3.7. For more advanced modules there will be additional input components to those mentioned above. Advanced modules are discussed in Section 5.

Note: Once these components are completed for both the base and project cases, a tick will appear to mark the completion of each component. Upon start-up of a new evaluation only the ‘road details’ and ‘road traffic data’ components will be available. After the system user has provided the necessary input in these fields, the other components will become available.
3.4 Road details screen

The ‘road details’ screen requires the system user to enter road project data characteristics for the base and project cases.

Figure 30: Road details screen

3.4.1 Case

The case drop-down menu is used to toggle between the base case and project case. Prior to switching between the base and project cases, ensure all input data has been saved.

3.4.2 Road description (model road state)

When undertaking an evaluation, the system user should select the appropriate road description for both base and project cases. The selection is based on model road state categories, which are identified in Appendix G of the Technical Guide. Model road state or MRS is used to categorize a specific road type. For example, in CBA6 a single carriageway two-lane road with a seal width of 7.4 metres is defined as MRS10. The MRS used in ARMIS and other sources may not always be consistent with CBA6. In the first instance, system users should set the road description and MRS in CBA6 to the seal width of the current road or project.

The model road state is used to determine the capacity of the road and is therefore an input variable used to calculate the congestion level and operating speed of the fleet.

3.4.3 Section length

The section length represents the full length of both base and project cases in kilometres. In some instances the base case and project case section length may differ. For example, a realignment project may reduce the section length of the road, see Section 4.5.4.
3.4.4 Initial roughness

Roughness is the measure of the unevenness of a road surface. It is a useful term for the condition of a pavement, because it is a condition directly experienced by motorists. It is commonly reported in Australia by either the NAASRA Roughness Measurement (NRM) method (Austroads 2000), which is measured using the NAASRA Roughness Car, or by the International Roughness Index (IRI), which is calculated by applying an analytical 'quarter car model' to road profile data collected via laser profilometer. NRM can be reliably converted to IRI by a linear equation, and vice versa, where required. See Appendix H of the Technical Guide.

Historically, TMR has collected NRM using the Roughness Car, a dynamic response type device, and reported both NRM and IRI. NRM is the most readily used. For further information on this topic, see the QUT paper Roughness Deterioration of Bitumen Sealed Pavements (P Hunt and JM Bunker).

Table 1: Description of roughness values NRM(IRI)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Descriptive Condition</th>
<th>Ride Quality</th>
<th>Roughness Value NRM/IRI (IRI)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Excellent</td>
<td>Very smooth ride</td>
<td>≤0.4 (1.46)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Good</td>
<td>Some minor bumps encountered</td>
<td>0.5 to 0.8 (2.67)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fair</td>
<td>Constant up and down movement, but reasonably comfortable driving</td>
<td>0.8 to 1.0 (4.10)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Poor</td>
<td>Constant up and down and/or sideways movement. Can feel very rough in trucks. Modern cars suspension makes car driving bearable, but with low comfort</td>
<td>1.1 to 1.6 (5.21)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Very Poor</td>
<td>Uncomfortable rideability experiencing severe up/down and/or sideways movement. Drivers must maintain good control of steering and reduce speed in some circumstances</td>
<td>&gt;1.6 (5.23)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

See Appendix H of the Technical Guide for conversion factors.

3.4.5 Safe operating speed

Operating speed reflects the safe operating speed for the fleet. Also known as posted speed, it is not to be confused with 'actual' vehicle operating speed, calculated separately, see Section 4 of the Technical Guide. Operating speed is deemed the maximum safe operating speed a vehicle should travel along a project route. CBA6 does not allow the fleet to travel any faster than this operating speed, therefore the posted or signed speed limit should be used.

3.4.6 Pavement type

There are three types of pavements used in CBA6. These are unpaved, flexible and rigid. Usually the pavement type will be defaulted to a corresponding classification as defined by the MRS. For example the default pavement type for MRS10 is a flexible pavement. The selection of pavement type affects the associated roughness deterioration profiles of the road.

3.4.7 Surface type

CBA6 has four choices of surface type: unsurfaced, primer seal, sprayed surface seal or asphaltic concrete. Usually the surface type will be defaulted based on the corresponding MRS. For example the default surface type for MRS10 is a 'sprayed surface seal'.

The sprayed surface seal will be the appropriate option for the majority of rural road projects. Concrete surface types, although used less often, are mainly used for national highways and motorways. Primer seals are used infrequently, generally for low-use roads, and provide a basic seal for the road surface. Road deterioration is also influenced by the selection of surface type.
### 3.4.8 Curvature

This option broadly defines the horizontal geometry of the road. CBA6 has three categories to select the curvature of the project site:

- **straight**
- **curvy**
- **very curvy.**

As an estimated guide for selecting the appropriate alignment category for a project site, apply the following:

- If $\text{AHSPD} \geq 90 \text{ km/h}$ or less than 15% of the section is in a curve, the curvature = straight.
- If $90 \text{ km/h} \geq \text{AHSPD} \geq 75 \text{ km/h}$ or if 15% to 75% of the section is in a curve, the curvature = curvy.
- If $\text{AHSPD} < 75 \text{ km/h}$ or if more than 75% of the section is in a curve, the curvature = very curvy.

Where:

- $\text{AHSPD} = \text{speed numeric reflecting the weighted average of curve design speed in a road section}$

Selection of the horizontal alignment of the road aspect will impact the road user costs, notably the operating speed of the fleet and tyre costs. For more information on tyre wear costs, refer to Section 4.3 of the *Technical Guide*.

### 3.4.9 Vertical alignment

The vertical alignment refers to the proportions of current and proposed grade of the road section. The vertical alignment selection in CBA6 can be modified for project specific gradients (user defined) or from predetermined default selections. Selection of horizontal and vertical alignments will result in associated changes in operating speeds (see Section 3.1 of the *Technical Guide* for information on the effect the vertical gradient has on traffic volume measurements). The selection options for vertical alignment are:

- **level or flat**
- **rolling or undulating**
- **mountainous**
- **user defined, see Figure 31.**

When the predefined gradient proportions are unsuitable for a particular road segment and defined vertical alignment data is available, the system user can select ‘user defined’, located below the default alignments, to select the suitable alternative gradient specifications. The input fields represent the percentage of road which falls into the respective gradient categories, see Figure 31. These entered grades must equal 100%.
3.4.10 Copy data from other case

This option is used to quickly copy data from one case to another. For example, a system user can copy base case data into the project case input screen. This option is useful when there are only a few changes in the CBA6 inputs between the base and project cases, see Section 3.8.
3.5 Road traffic data screen

The ‘road traffic data’ screen identifies the traffic flow, composition and growth over the life of a project, see Figure 32. Sections 3.5.1 to 3.5.4 explain the features of this screen.

Figure 32: Road traffic data screen

3.5.1 Case

The case drop-down menu is found in a number of CBA6 input screens and used to toggle between the various base and project cases traffic data.

3.5.2 Year

The year drop-down menu gives the system user access to individual years of the evaluation. System users can manually input or change traffic data for a given year.

Note: The number of years in the evaluation is specified in the ‘create new evaluation’ screen, see Section 3.1.9.

3.5.3 AADT and traffic breakdown

AADT refers to annual average daily traffic. This is a measure of road use by all vehicles at a daily equivalent rate. Typically, traffic data is gathered over a period of time using surveys and traffic counting devices. Where AADT volumes are not available for a given road segment, it is recommended that project-specific surveys are undertaken to provide basic data.

In the ‘road traffic data’ screen, CBA6 provides the system user with the following options for input:

- manually entering AADT for each year, see Section 3.5.3.1
• calculating other years function (using a linear or compound growth rate), see Section 3.5.3.2
• combining both, see Section 3.5.3.3.

Once AADT volumes have been sourced for a project, they must be disaggregated for use in CBA6. There are eight vehicle types used in CBA6, which correspond with Austroads vehicle clarifications, see Appendix E.

The vehicle types used in CBA6 are:
• cars – private
• cars – commercial
• non-articulated
• buses
• articulated
• B-doubles
• road train type 1
• road train type 2.

If AADT is given in vehicle numbers, then the percentage breakdown per vehicle type must be calculated prior to entry into CBA6.

Note: CBA6 automatically generates the private vehicle composition as the residual of the total AADT once other vehicle types are entered. The traffic breakdown screen is also the input source for livestock damage. For further information on livestock, see Figure 53.

3.5.3.1 Manual input

CBA6 will automatically generate traffic given an initial AADT and growth rate. To manually enter traffic data for each year, the system user enters AADT and a traffic breakdown, see Figure 33.
As shown in Figure 34, system users then select year 2 from the drop-down menu and input the relevant data for this year. This process is continued until all years of the evaluation period have been populated.
3.5.3.2 Calculate other years

To automate the population of traffic data over the entire evaluation period, CBA6 allows the system user to choose a simple linear growth rate or a compound rate to forecast future traffic growth, see Figure 35.

Note: Future predictions of traffic flows and subsequent growth are usually site specific and can be derived from future land use and road network projections. Growth rates can vary in complexity, but are often simply modelled from regional population growth forecasts.

Figure 35: Calculate other traffic years

The base and project cases usually have the same traffic data inputs, however the provision of new infrastructure can lead to new or generated traffic, increasing the expected demand in the project case.

Note: If a road project is likely to change the traffic demand or breakdown between the base case and the project case, system users must use the ‘generated traffic’ or ‘change in MCV’ methodology where appropriate, see Figures 54 and 55.
3.5.3.3 Change in growth or breakdown

In some circumstances, traffic growth may change in future years given the influence of external factors. For example, a new mine may open causing an increase in the number of heavy vehicles using the road. CBA6 can be used to account for this change in traffic growth, see Figure 36.

Figure 36: Traffic growth from year 1 to year 11

Traffic grows at 3% linear from year 1 to year 11, see Figure 37.

Figure 37: Traffic AADT from year 1 to year 11

From year 12, the traffic composition and growth rate changes. The remaining years of the evaluation are forecast as shown in Figure 38 using the ‘calculate other years’ function starting from year 12.
3.5.4 Copy data from other case

Traffic data can be copied from the base case to the project case using the 'copy data from other case' feature, see Section 3.8.
3.6 Road capital and maintenance costs screen

The ‘road capital and maintenance costs’ screen in CBA6 shown in Figure 39 is used to capture whole-of-life costs. In the base case, the anticipated costs in the absence of a project should be included over the life of the evaluation, while in the project case, costs should include any additional costs or savings in maintenance borne by a project. Typically, projects such as road widening works may require additional maintenance costs (i.e. due to increased surface area), however new technology or pavement designs may reduce extensive rehabilitation costs, effectively creating a whole-of-life maintenance saving.

The Department Asset Management Guidelines (2002) categories of pavement maintenance are:

- routine maintenance
- programmed maintenance – road resurfacing and/or bulk routine maintenance
- rehabilitation.

Inflation should be excluded from all maintenance costs entered into CBA6, i.e. include only real costs of maintenance. For an example of increasing real costs of maintenance, see Section 3.6.7.

Figure 39: Project case capital and maintenance cost screen
### 3.6.1 Capital

Capital costs are the initial outlay or one-off investment costs needed to set up a project. These are the start-up costs required to build the road infrastructure, including any labour costs used in construction of a project.

Note: Depreciation is excluded from the analysis as the full cost to the community of the asset is determined at the time of consumption. To include depreciation would therefore distort the assumption behind the discount rate.

### 3.6.2 Routine maintenance

Routine maintenance preserves the shape or profile of the pavement and amenities of the road corridor. Routine maintenance has no impact on road roughness.

### 3.6.3 Periodic maintenance

Programmed maintenance is referred to as ‘periodic maintenance’ in CBA6. Periodic maintenance can have an impact on road roughness and usually reduces roughness by a factor of NRM. For example, periodic maintenance reduces roughness by 5 NRM. Periodic maintenance usually occurs at 5 to 10-year intervals.

### 3.6.4 Rehabilitation

Rehabilitation refers to the full reconstruction of the road surface and usually occurs at longer intervals than other types of maintenance. Rehabilitation works usually return the road to its original design roughness. For example rehabilitation reduces roughness back to 55 NRM.

### 3.6.5 Residual value

A residual value can be entered for both the base case and project case. The residual value is used to incorporate the additional value of the asset after the end of the evaluation period. For example, a road asset may have a useful life of 50 years, however the evaluation is undertaken over a 30-year period. To account for the remaining 20 years of useful life, a residual value is incorporated in the CBA. See Section 9.7 of the Technical Guide for residual value calculation.
3.6.6 Start year of benefits

The 'start year of benefit' field specifies the completion and commission date of a project. For example, if a project takes 3 years to build, the start year of benefits will be year 4.

3.6.7 Quick edit

The predominant use of the 'quick edit' function is as an alternative to manually entering maintenance costs. The 'quick edit' function allows the system user to extrapolate yearly maintenance costs over the life of the evaluation or in the years in which it occurs. To use the 'quick edit' function:

1. select relevant maintenance category (routine, periodic or rehabilitation)
2. click 'quick edit'
3. select ‘start year’ and ‘end year’
4. select either 'constant yearly value' or 'percentage' (growth function)
5. enter values
6. select ‘ok’.

Figure 41 provides an example of $20 000 in maintenance costs spent every 5 years. To incorporate annual costs the system user would enter ‘1’ in the appropriate field.

*Figure 41: Cost quick edit constant value*

To account for a change in costs each year the system user can incorporate a growth factor to the maintenance cost estimates. In Figure 59, $200 000 in costs is expected to increase by 3%. This may be warranted to maintain the road at its current roughness standard given future increases in traffic volumes.
The 'quick edit' function also allows the system user to assign a consistent roughness modifier resulting from the associated maintenance costs. To quick edit the roughness modifier for periodic and rehabilitation maintenance categories:

1. Select 'roughness modifier' (periodic and rehabilitation categories only), 'reduces roughness by' (NRM), or 'reduces roughness back to' (NRM).
2. Select 'quick edit'.
3. Select 'start year' and 'end year'.
4. Input roughness modifier ('reduce roughness by' or 'reduces roughness back to').
5. Enter repetition frequency.
6. Select 'ok'.

Figure 43 shows the 'quick edit' function for periodic maintenance.
Figure 44 shows the function for rehabilitation.

**Figure 44: Rehabilitation roughness quick edit**

Note: Timing of the roughness reduction quick edit must match the timing of costs. For example, if costs occur in year 5, the ‘reduces roughness’ field must coincide with costs in year 5.
3.7 Road accident and other costs

The final input screen for a road evaluation is the ‘road accident and other costs’ screen, see Figure 45. CBA6 will automatically calculate the accident costs unless the system user specifies manual accident costs in the ‘create new evaluation’ screen. For more information on the manual calculation of accident costs, see Section 6 of the Technical Guide.

In this screen, system users are able to add additional costs that need to be included in the evaluation. These are usually externalities costs such as noise and emissions. For more detail on deriving user-defined externality costs, see Section 7 of the Technical Guide.

Figure 45: Road accident and other costs
3.8 Copy data from other case

The ‘copy data from other case’ function, located at the bottom of both the road details and road traffic data screens of CBA6, allows the system user to directly copy all details from one case to another, i.e. base to project or project to base. This function is useful in scenarios where composition, volume and growth remain the same in both base and project cases. To copy data from one case to another:

- select case and screen to copy data to
- click ‘copy data from other case’
- select ‘case’ to copy data from
- click ‘ok’.

Note: To enable this function, one case (base or project) must be completed. The ‘copy data from other case’ screen can be seen in Figure 46.

Figure 46: Copy data from other case
3.9 Copy to clipboard

The ‘copy to clipboard’ function allows the system user to copy data shown by CBA6 into other applications. The ‘copy to clipboard’ button is located in the capital and maintenance, accident and other costs, travel time, VOC and the results screens (see Figure 47). Once the data is exported, the system user is able to manipulate the format and presentation as necessary to suite any further analysis (e.g. manual amalgamation of multiple evaluation files) or reporting requirements.

Figure 47: Copy to clipboard – decision criteria

This function is also available within the detailed road case report to allow the system user to copy the disaggregated VOC (fuel, tyres, oil, repairs and depreciation) see Figure 25.
4 Results and reports

It is important that the results of a project evaluation are appropriately documented. CBA6 provides reports for VOC, TTC, net capital and maintenance costs, benefits and decision criteria, see Figure 48. CBA6 presents its results in two ways: online screen displays and reports. This chapter covers the display screens and reports produced by CBA6.

A thorough understanding of the results shown in CBA6 is required in order to provide informed recommendations on a project’s economic justification. This chapter will ensure system users can make appropriate interpretation of the results calculated in CBA6. This chapter will also provide system users with an overview of the CBA6 results and explain how to cross-check evaluation inputs with outputs.
Figure 48: CBA6 reports
4.1 Vehicle operating costs

The ‘VOC’ screen allows the system user to view project VOC savings in discounted and undiscounted values. The data is displayed on an annual basis and is disaggregated by vehicle type. The results displayed on this screen form a direct link with the decision criteria report. The system user can switch between the base and project cases to compare the change in cost. See Section 4 of the Technical Guide for further information on VOC.

*Figure 49: Vehicle operating costs (VOC) screen*

Note: This screen does not display individual costs on a per-vehicle basis but rather costs for the entire fleet.
4.2 Travel time costs

The ‘TTC’ screen allows the system user to view project TTC savings in discounted and undiscounted values. The data is displayed on an annual basis and is disaggregated by vehicle type. The results displayed in this screen form a direct link with the decision criteria report. The system user can switch between the base and project cases to compare the change in cost. See Section 4 of the Technical Guide for further information on vehicle TTC.

Figure 50: Travel time costs screen

Note: This screen does not display individual costs on a per-vehicle basis but rather costs for the entire fleet.
4.3 Net capital and maintenance costs

The ‘net capital and maintenance costs’ screen displays an aggregate summary of annual capital and maintenance costs over the life of a project. CBA6 aggregates both base case and project case costs, providing the system user with an overarching cost summary.

Figure 51 shows the net capital and maintenance costs for a project. In this figure, ongoing and recurrent maintenance costs occur throughout all years in the base case with periodic maintenance occurring in Year 8. In the project case, capital costs occur from Years 1 to 3. As the same routine maintenance occurs in both the base and project cases, the incremental costs from Years 4 to 7 are zero. The negative incremental cost in Year 8 is a result of periodic maintenance costs which occur in the base case but do not occur in the project case. The annual discounted costs in both cases are represented by the selected discount rate at the start of the evaluation.

Figure 51: Net capital and maintenance costs screen
4.4 Benefits

Benefits results are similar to net capital and maintenance costs and summarise the aggregate road user benefits of a project in both base and project cases. Benefits calculations are based on aggregated estimates of road user costs including TTC, VOC and accident costs.

Figure 52 shows that there are two years of capital costs with benefits of a project commencing in Year 3, see Section 3.6.6. From the figure, it can be seen that from Year 3, total base case costs exceed costs in the project case, deriving an annual benefit which is totalled at a discounted value of $890 000.

Figure 52: Benefits screen
4.5 Decision criteria

The economic decision criteria created by CBA6 are a set of indicators which allow system users to understand possible economic outcomes of projects. The economic decision criteria identified here allows useful economic comparisons between discounted benefits and costs.

The economic decision criteria generated in CBA6 includes:

- BCR
- NPV per $ investment
- NPV
- FYRR.

Each criterion is discussed in detail in Sections 4.5.1 to 4.5.4. For further information on the theoretical assumptions of the decision criteria used in CBA6, see Section 1.7 of the Theoretical Guide. For further information on the formulas used to calculate the decision criteria used in CBA6, see Section 9 of the Technical Guide.

4.5.1 Benefit-cost ratio

The BCR is the most widely used measurement of project performance within TMR. A BCR greater than 1 indicates that a project is economically viable i.e. the benefits outweigh the costs.

The decision criteria example in Figure 52 displays the output from CBA6. At the 7% discount rate, the BCR for the project is 2.48. This indicates that the benefits exceed the costs, and the project is economically viable.

4.5.2 Net present value per $ investment

This is a ratio of NPV divided by the present value of capital costs. It indicates the increase in economic value to the community relative to the amount of capital invested. If two projects generate the same NPV but have different capital efficiency ratios, the project with the higher capital efficiency factor is considered the superior investment.

4.5.3 Net present value

The NPV of a project is the difference between the discounted stream of benefits and the discounted stream of costs. Ultimately the NPV should be used to value the initiative and the BCR should be used to rank viable projects. The NPV shown in Figure 52 at the 6% discount rate is $12.9 million.

4.5.4 First year rate of return

The FYRR is a ratio of first year of benefits to the capital costs of a project. FYRR indicates whether a project's optimal implementation time is in the past or in the future, and can indicate whether deferral is warranted (ATC 2007).
4.5.5 Incremental and linking decision criteria

The ‘decision criteria’ screen can also be populated for linking evaluation files and comparing project options through the incremental analysis. For further information on using incremental analysis and linking, see Sections 5.12 and 5.13.
4.6 Producing and understanding CBA reports

CBA6 produces output reports in detailed forms for all project types available in the tool. These reports provide system users with disaggregated results which can be used in a variety of report presentation formats.

4.6.1 Producing road case reports

The road case report is the most significant report created by CBA6. The road case report is created to provide system users with a detailed assessment of all components of a project. When the system user creates a road case report, the tool will identify a number of user options for selection. A simple report can be created, see Figure 54.

*Figure 54: Simple report*

The standard road case report summarises the CBA and includes the following components:

- evaluation/project details
- road details – base case
- road details – project case
- decision criteria
- sensitivity analysis.
The road case report screen is shown in Figure 55.

**Figure 55: Road case report**

To create a detailed CBA report the system user can select the ‘detailed report’ option. From Figure 55 there is now a number of additional outputs that can be included in the report. The system user can select the following additional reporting options:

- roughness per year
- AADT per year
- VCR per year
- operating speed per year.

These additional outputs can be selected by individual case option (base or project) or for the whole project.

**Figure 56: Detailed report**

Note: Printing the detailed CBA report may only be required when, for example, being used as an appendix to a funding submission. The report will produce a number of pages that may otherwise not be needed.
4.6.2 Vehicle operating costs to clipboard

The 'VOC to clipboard' function is generically quite similar to the 'copy to clipboard' function, but is only available after the system user has generated a detailed road case report. When creating a detailed road case report, the system user is given an option to 'copy VOC to clipboard', see Figure 55. The function will then allow the system user to copy all VOCs of the evaluation to a spreadsheet for further analysis. This function allows the system user to acquire disaggregated VOC, unavailable in the other reports.

4.6.3 Sensitivity analysis

The sensitivity analysis presented within the road case report is designed to measure the uncertainty of inputs within an evaluation. For a given road project evaluation, CBA6 performs sensitivity analysis on a number of parameters. The sensitivity test range can be changed by the system user, see Section 2.6.4.

The sensitivity analysis undertaken in the road case report is shown in Figure 57. For example, if private TTC savings are a large proportion of total project benefits, the system user may wish to consider public transport options as opposed to road infrastructure.

Figure 57: Sensitivity analysis
4.6.4 Producing intersection reports

There are two types of intersection reports available within CBA6. These reports are the intersection summary sheet and the intersection whole-of-life report. The summary sheet includes user input components and decision criteria, and incorporates period details and SIDRA inputs for the modelled years, see Figure 58.

Figure 58: Intersection summary sheet report
The whole-of-life report provides a summary of the road agency and road user costs over the life of a project recorded on an annual basis, see Figure 59.

Figure 59: Intersection whole-of-life report
4.7 Printing reports

CBA6 uses the default printer when printing any report, see Figure 60. It is important that a system user has the correct default printer selected before the report is printed.

To electronically store evaluation results, print to PDF.

*Figure 60: CBA6 print*
4.8 Graphs

CBA6 allows the system user to graph selected variables per case against time. This function provides a valuable resource for system users to access visual representations of the inner workings of the tool while also providing a source of analysis for use in CBA reports.

The system user has the option of graphing the following variables:

- AADT (per vehicle type)
- AADT (total)
- operating speed (per vehicle type)
- volume in passenger car equivalents (per vehicle type)
- volume in passenger car equivalents (total)
- volume capacity ratios
- roughness count
- TTC
- VOC
- accident costs
- other costs
- total costs.

To create a graph the system user highlights a specific evaluation and selects the graph menu option, see Figure 14. The economic data graph option screen is shown in Figure 60. The system user can graph an individual case or both the base and project cases, using the arrow keys to select which case to graph. The system user can also specify the variables to be graphed on the Y axis. The primary Y axis option creates a line graph while the secondary Y axis options create a bar graph. The primary and secondary Y axis variables can be run simultaneously. The years to be graphed can also be specified in CBA6.
From Figure 61, AADT in the project case has been graphed against the volume capacity ratio for the road. This graph shows that there is a positive relationship between traffic growth and congestion. System users can create a number of graphs to compare variables between the base and project cases. For example, graph the volume capacity ratio in the base case against the project case to compare congestion levels.
Figure 62: Graph (AADT and VCR)

Once a graph is produced in CBA6, the system user has three options: print, copy or save the graph. To copy the graph, click the print button. The printing options will give the system user the opportunity to select whether the graph is printed, saved as a file, or copied to the clipboard.
4.9 Understanding the results

When completing a road project evaluation, there are certain results that occasionally appear erroneous. For example, in the decision criteria, there may be disbenefits, negative costs and negative first year rates of return. This section aims to highlight the majority of these issues and explain what they mean in the context of CBA6.

Note: The system user is directed to the Technical Guide for information on the calculations made by CBA6.

4.9.1 Disbenefits

Most benefits are a result of the savings in road user costs between the base and project cases. If the project case costs exceed those of the base case, this is likely to be reflected in CBA6 as a negative benefit, or disbenefit.

Note: Disbenefits are displayed in red in the CBA6 results screen.

For example, provision of an improved road surface may increase the speed of the fleet, leading to increased consumption of fuel, oil and tyres. This increase in VOC is transferred to the road user who incurs this extra cost. In CBA6, this would result in a disbenefit to the road user. VOC are typically the most common disbenefit. These disbenefits are not usually incorrect or misleading. Where these disbenefits exist, project results should be carefully scrutinised for errors in the inputs. Examples where outputs may warrant cross check of the inputs could include:

- When CBA6 generates travel time disbenefits even though operating speed increases in the project case. For example, in the case of a bypass, the project will result in faster operating speeds but the appearance of disbenefits as AADT is higher.

- When CBA6 generates accident disbenefits although the width of the road has increased, resulting in a safer road. For example, this could occur where the section length is longer in the project case.

- When VOC increase in the project case despite an improvement in the road surface.

4.9.2 Negative costs

Negative costs are fundamentally the opposite of disbenefits. Negative costs refer to the savings in operating and maintenance costs, including any residual value, and will be displayed in red in the ‘decision criteria’ screen under the heading of ‘other costs’. Like disbenefits, negative costs are not necessarily incorrect or misleading. As previously mentioned, negative costs are the result of savings in maintenance costs over the life of a project, and can be due to better pavement construction.

4.9.3 Conflicting results from decision criteria

Conflicting results are unusual, but can occur within the decision criteria. It is possible to get BCR below 1 but positive NPV, or negative FYRR and BCR above 1. For example:

- If an alternative maintenance strategy is proposed to the current strategy, a BCR below 1 may result if the alternative maintenance strategy costs less than the current strategy.

- A project may result in a negative FYRR if there are disbenefits in the first year of operation.

If the decision criteria indicators are not clear, decisions should be based on NPV alone.
4.10 Response to unexpected results

Table 2 provides a useful output matrix for the system user to apply when confronted with unexpected results. System users can ensure the accuracy of the results by checking the inputs against the outputs. For example, if a project provides accident disbenefits, the system user should check the road description (MRS, section length and AADT inputs). In this case, an incorrect MRS may have been used for the project case. This would mean the results in CBA6 are due to a human error. However, if the project case has a longer section length than the base case it would be reasonable for accident disbenefits to occur. If system users observe unexpected or conflicting results, this table may assist in cross checking the outputs with the appropriate inputs. For further assistance, system users should direct all queries to the CBA Team.

Ultimately all results in CBA6 can be manually calculated and cross checked using the formulas presented in the Technical Guide.

Table 2: CBA6 output matrix

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CBA6 input</th>
<th>CBA6 output</th>
<th>Vehicle operating costs</th>
<th>Travel time costs</th>
<th>Accidents</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Fuel</td>
<td>Oil</td>
<td>Tyres</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Road description (MRS)</td>
<td>L</td>
<td>L</td>
<td>L</td>
<td>L</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Section length</td>
<td>M (+)</td>
<td>M (+)</td>
<td>M (+)</td>
<td>M (+)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Speed limit</td>
<td>M (+/-)</td>
<td>M (+/-)</td>
<td>M (+/-)</td>
<td>M (+/-)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Initial roughness</td>
<td>L (+)</td>
<td>L (+)</td>
<td>L (+)</td>
<td>L (+)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pavement type</td>
<td>L</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>L</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Surface type</td>
<td>L</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>L</td>
<td>M</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vertical alignment</td>
<td>L</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>L</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Horizontal alignment</td>
<td>L</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>H</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AADT</td>
<td>H (+)</td>
<td>H (+)</td>
<td>H (+)</td>
<td>H (+)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Traffic breakdown</td>
<td>H</td>
<td>H</td>
<td>H</td>
<td>H</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The degree of impact on each output per input is based on a score of high (h), medium (m) or low (l). Each impact is also measured in terms of a positive (+) and negative (-) relationship where appropriate. For example, an increase in the speed limit will decrease TTC (when all other inputs are held constant).

Note: The speed input can have a positive or negative relationship with some of the VOC outputs due to the nature of the speed/consumption relationship. For further detail, see Section 11 of the Technical Guide.
4.11 Presenting CBA6 results

Once the system user has completed an evaluation, there are several presentation options. Results can be presented in the form of standard and detailed road case reports (see Section 4.6.1) which can be used as attachments to funding proposals. Alternatively system users can use the CBA6 reports (decision criteria, see Figure 53) or the ‘copy to clipboard’ function to create a variety of graphs to illustrate discussion points.

Note: Interpretation of CBA results can often be quite challenging. The advice of qualified specialists should be sought when interpreting results and making conclusions of the CBA.
5 Case studies

The case studies provide an instructional guide for undertaking a road evaluation using CBA6. Projects can vary in complexity and CBA6 has a number of different modules that are used to evaluate a variety of road projects. CBA6 has been designed to encompass the types of capital and maintenance projects usually undertaken by TMR. Each case study provides an opportunity for system users to quickly become familiar with operating the tool.
Case studies have been included in this section for the following types of projects:

- maintenance strategies
- road widening
- shoulder sealing
- overtaking lanes
- flood immunity and road closures
- intersections
- duplication
- town bypasses
- unsealed roads
- generated traffic
- freight
- multiple project options
- incremental analysis
- linking evaluation files.

Note: Detailed printed reports for each case study are presented in Appendix A (CBA6.1 printouts).

The explanation of the case studies are accompanied by detailed instructions on entering project data into CBA6 together with guidance on project results.
5.1 Maintenance

This case study provides guidance to undertake a maintenance strategy evaluation. A maintenance evaluation will primarily compare the roughness deterioration profile between the base and project cases and the ensuing change in maintenance costs. It is sometimes required, when bringing forward some maintenance work, to delay other work. CBA6 can be used to calculate the net economic benefits of mutually exclusive maintenance programs.

TMR's asset management guidelines (2002) prescribe three categories of maintenance:

- routine maintenance
- programmed maintenance – road resurfacing and/or bulk routine maintenance
- rehabilitation.

In CBA6 programmed maintenance is referred to as 'periodic maintenance'.

5.1.1 Maintenance case study

This case study involves the evaluation of a narrow two-lane road with pavement in fair condition. The road has low traffic volumes but there is a large proportion of heavy commercial vehicles that make up the traffic fleet. The characteristics of the road may not justify the capital costs due to low traffic volumes, but TMR wants to test an alternative maintenance strategy that will better cater for the heavy vehicles using the road.

The current maintenance strategy for the road consists of annual routine maintenance and periodic maintenance in Years 5, 10, 15, 20, 25 and 29. The periodic maintenance works will improve the road surface by 5 NRM.

The objective of this CBA is to determine the economic viability of pursuing the new maintenance program in place of the current program. All the required input data for this maintenance case study can be found in Appendix A.

Figure 63: Maintenance case study NRM
5.1.2 Create new evaluation screen

Figure 64 shows the maintenance case study evaluation details screen. The key attributes of this screen are the selection of the discount rate, the evaluation period, the zone and the speed environment. The remaining details in the ‘create evaluation’ screen are superfluous and can be entered according to the system user’s own preference.

*Figure 64: Maintenance create new evaluation*

5.1.3 Road details screen

The data entered into the ‘road details’ screen for the base case and project case are the same. Enter an MRS of 8, a section length of 2 km, an initial roughness of 80 NRM, a safe speed of 80 km/h, a pavement type of flexible, a surface type of sprayed seal, a straight horizontal alignment and a vertical alignment of rolling and undulating. For a maintenance only evaluation the road details for the base and project cases should remain the same.

5.1.4 Road traffic data screen

The road traffic data is the same for the base case and the project case. The AADT is 2500 in Year 1; the growth rate is 2.0% and linear. Traffic breakdown is 73% cars – private, 5% cars – commercial, 5% non-articulated, 0% buses, 5% articulated, 8% B-doubles, 3% road train type 1 and 1% road train type 2.

5.1.5 Capital and maintenance costs

The most important inputs for a maintenance evaluation are found in the ‘capital and maintenance costs’ screen. Assumptions and data for the maintenance strategy will differ between the base and project cases.
5.1.5.1 Base case

Base case maintenance costs are shown in Figure 65.

Routine maintenance – enter $10,000 each year. Routine maintenance is work carried out each year that does not change the condition of the road NRM, such as grass cutting and road kill clean up. Use the ‘quick edit’ button to populate the routine maintenance fields for the entire evaluation period. The ‘quick edit’ buttons are explained in detail in Section 3.6.7. Note: If the base case and project case routine maintenance costs are the same, they do not need to be entered in CBA6. Periodic maintenance – enter $500,000 in Years 5, 10, 15, 20, 25 and 29 in the ‘periodic maintenance’ row. Enter a reduction in roughness by 5 NRM in the ‘reduces roughness by (NRM)’ row to correspond with the periodic maintenance costs. Periodic maintenance will provide a temporary improvement in the road’s surface but roughness will deteriorate at a faster rate than if rehabilitation had taken place. Rehabilitation – $0, no reconstruction in the base case. The current maintenance strategy only provides periodic maintenance. Once all the maintenance data has been entered in CBA6, click ‘save’ and begin the same procedure for the project case. In the project case, the assumptions on the timing of periodic maintenance will change and rehabilitation will now be included in CBA6.

*Figure 65: Maintenance case study base case*

5.1.5.2 Project case

Project case maintenance costs are shown in Figure 65.

- Capital – $0, no capital costs for a maintenance strategy.
- Routine maintenance – in this example, routine maintenance does not change for the project case, so use $10,000 for each year. Note: If the base case and project case routine maintenance costs are the same they do not need to be entered in CBA6 as the net result will be zero.
- Periodic maintenance – $500,000 in Years 6 and 28 with corresponding roughness reduction of 5 NRM.
- Rehabilitation – enter $2 million in Year 12 in the ‘rehabilitation’ row. As in Figure 64 enter a new roughness of 50 NRM in the ‘reduces roughness to (NRM)’ row to correspond with the rehabilitation costs. Rehabilitation will provide a more permanent improvement to road roughness than periodic maintenance. After rehabilitation, roughness will deteriorate at a slower rate than if periodic maintenance had just been applied.
- Start year of benefits – this is only available for the project case. This value defaults to 1, but changes to the year of the last entered capital cost plus 1. A maintenance strategy can be tested from Year 1.
• Residual value – this evaluation does not have a residual value, as capital costs have not been incurred in this project. For information regarding residual value refer to Section 3.6.5.

Once all the maintenance data has been entered into CBA6 click ‘save’. Click ‘copy to clipboard’ to create a graph of the maintenance and roughness deterioration profile in a spreadsheet. This is useful to provide a simple visual comparison of the base and project cases.

*Figure 66: Maintenance case study project case*

5.1.6 Accident and other costs

It has been assumed in CBA6, that pure maintenance strategies do not influence accident costs.

5.1.7 Results and decision criteria

The ‘results’ screen in Figure 66 provides the system user with information as to which maintenance strategy provides greater economic value.

The project case maintenance strategy requires higher maintenance costs, in the order of $218,095, than the base case maintenance strategy, at a discount rate of 6%. No capital was applied to this evaluation. The increase in maintenance costs is justified, as the benefits for existing road users are greater than the increase in maintenance costs. The majority of the project benefits are comprised of VOC savings for commercial vehicles. The results imply that the project satisfies the objective of catering better for heavy vehicles using the road. The NPV for the proposed maintenance strategy is $197,711 at the discount rate of 6%. The BCR for our new maintenance strategy is 1.91 at the discount rate of 6%, which indicates a positive economic return on the costs. The BCR produced for maintenance strategies should not be used in comparison with capital projects, see Section 3.5.3.2.

The alternative maintenance strategy in this case study is a better option than the existing strategy. CBA6 can compare a number of mutually exclusive options using the ‘multiple project cases’, see Section 5.11. This module provides a guide to undertaking multiple options analysis. This will be useful in developing the optimum maintenance strategy for the road network.
Figure 67: Maintenance case results

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Discount Rate</th>
<th>4%</th>
<th>6%</th>
<th>7%</th>
<th>8%</th>
<th>10%</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Discounted Costs</td>
<td>200,638</td>
<td>218,038</td>
<td>218,309</td>
<td>213,830</td>
<td>179,252</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Discounted Capital Costs</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Discounted Other Costs</td>
<td>200,638</td>
<td>218,038</td>
<td>218,309</td>
<td>213,830</td>
<td>179,252</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Discounted Benefits</td>
<td>527,025</td>
<td>473,925</td>
<td>424,292</td>
<td>283,907</td>
<td>195,724</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Private TTC Savings</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Commercial TTC Savings</td>
<td>213,787</td>
<td>162,999</td>
<td>117,517</td>
<td>97,209</td>
<td>97,209</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Private VGC Savings</td>
<td>128,669</td>
<td>89,822</td>
<td>70,746</td>
<td>58,206</td>
<td>40,053</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Commercial VGC Savings</td>
<td>278,460</td>
<td>185,830</td>
<td>154,113</td>
<td>127,064</td>
<td>90,453</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Discounted Accident Savings</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Discounted Franchise Savings</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Discounted Environmental Savings</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Discounted Secondary Savings</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Discounted Other Savings</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Discounted Road Closure Savings</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Discounted Livestock Damage Benefits</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Discounted Gated Traffic Benefits</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Net Present Value (NPV)</td>
<td>-412,991</td>
<td>-197,711</td>
<td>-128,504</td>
<td>-78,258</td>
<td>-16,469</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Net Present Value per dollar Investment</td>
<td>0.00</td>
<td>0.00</td>
<td>0.00</td>
<td>0.00</td>
<td>0.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Benefit Cost Ratio Excl. Private Time</td>
<td>2.39</td>
<td>1.91</td>
<td>1.61</td>
<td>1.39</td>
<td>1.09</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Benefit Cost Ratio</td>
<td>2.05</td>
<td>1.67</td>
<td>1.41</td>
<td>1.19</td>
<td>0.95</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>First Year Rate of Return</td>
<td>0.00%</td>
<td>0.00%</td>
<td>0.00%</td>
<td>0.00%</td>
<td>0.00%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
5.2 Road widening

A road widening project involves increasing the seal width of the road. Road widening projects are designed to alleviate minor congestion issues and provide a safer operating environment for road users. For the purposes of conducting evaluations using CBA6, road widening projects have been divided into two categories.

- Section 5.2.1 – road widening without shoulder sealing
- Section 5.2.2 – road widening with shoulder sealing

5.2.1 Road widening without shoulder sealing

This example involves the evaluation of a regional road with a poor safety record. A road widening is proposed to mitigate the higher than average accident rate. The proposed road widening will increase the seal width from a model road state MRS 7 (two-lane seal 5.3 m – 5.8 m) to MRS 10 (two-lane seal 7.1 m – 7.6 m), both of which do not provide sealed shoulders. The proposed road widening is expected to cost $2.5 million and take one year to complete.

5.2.1.1 Create new evaluation screen

The ‘create new evaluation’ screen for this case study is shown in Figure 68. The evaluation period is set to 31 years. There will be one year of construction and a useful life of 30 years for the asset. In this example it may be appropriate to provide comment on the widening work being proposed in the ‘description’ field.

Figure 68: Road widening case study
5.2.1.2 Road details

The ‘road details’ screen highlights the important difference between the base and project cases. In a simple road widening project the most important inputs to CBA6 will be in the description of model road state.

5.2.1.2.1. Base case

The base case road details are shown in Figure 69. The base case ‘road description’ is an MRS of 7. The current roughness of the road is 100 NRM. The pavement and surface type have been defaulted to match the MRS of 7. Once the ‘road details’ screen for the base case is complete, click ‘save’.

Figure 69: Road widening base case

5.2.1.2.2. Project case

The only change to the ‘road details’ screen for the project case in this simple widening will be the MRS and initial roughness, see Figure 70. To quickly populate the project case road details screen press the ‘copy data from other case’ button and use the base case road details. Once all the base case details have been copied over, change the MRS using the drop-down menu. The MRS in the project case should be 10 (two-lane seal 7.1 m – 7.6 m). The initial roughness in the project case is 50 NRM.
5.2.1.3 Road traffic data

In this example, the AADT is 3000 vehicles per day, see Figure 71. Traffic data for the base and project cases will be the same. Once the base case traffic data has been saved, use the 'copy data from other case' button to quickly transfer the same data for the project case.
5.2.1.4 Capital and maintenance costs

In this example, the project case has $2.5 million in capital costs. In this example it is necessary to change the maintenance profile for the project case.

5.2.1.4.1. Base case

Routine maintenance – $10,000 each year. Routine maintenance is work carried out each year that does not change the condition of the road NRM, such as grass cutting and road kill clean up. Use the 'quick edit' to populate the routine maintenance fields for the entire evaluation period, see Section 3.6.7. Periodic maintenance – $500,000 in Years 7, 21 and 28 with corresponding roughness reduction of 5 NRM. Periodic maintenance (programmed maintenance) will provide a temporary improvement in the road’s surface. Rehabilitation – $1 million in Year 14 that reduces roughness back to 80 NRM. The 'copy to clipboard' button may be used to copy the capital and maintenance cost data and paste into a suitable external program such as Excel. Once all the maintenance data has been applied in CBA6, click the ‘save’ button and begin the same procedure for the project case.

5.2.1.4.2. Project case

- Capital – $2.5 million entered in Year 1. CBA6 uses cost data in ‘000 – input 2500 in CBA6 to represent $2.5 million, see Figure 71.

- Routine maintenance – assume routine maintenance is the same as the base case, therefore input $10,000 each year.

- Periodic maintenance – the maintenance profile between the base and project cases now changes. Only three maintenance interventions are now required. Enter $500,000 in Years 10, 17, and 24 with corresponding roughness reduction of 5 NRM.

- Rehabilitation – $0, no reconstruction in the project case.

Figure 71: Road widening traffic data
• Start year of benefits – this field is only available for the project case and will default to Year 1. As the benefits of the project will flow post construction, this default value needs to be changed to the year of the last entered capital cost plus one. For this case study the project will be assessed from Year 2.

• Residual value – there is no residual value of the asset after the 31-year evaluation period.

• The ‘copy to clipboard’ button may be used to copy the capital and maintenance cost data and paste into a suitable external program such as Excel.

Figure 72: Road widening project costs

5.2.1.5 Accident and other costs

Safety is a major reason behind the planning and construction of road widening projects. This example involves the evaluation of a project which produces a significant reduction in accidents (see Section 6 of the Technical Guide for the relationship between MRS and accident rates). Accident costs decrease in the first year of the evaluation from $354 000 in the base case to only $190 000 in the project case, see Figures 73 and 74. If the accident cost estimates are not representative of the section of road analysed, the system user can manually calculate the accident costs. To manually calculate accident costs, the ‘manual accident cost’ box found in the ‘create new evaluation’ screen needs to be clicked.

Figure 73: Road widening accident costs – base case
5.2.1.6 Results and decision criteria

The estimated capital cost for this project is $2.5 million. As a result of capital works, TMR has been able to delay some programmed maintenance. The increase in spending is justified as benefits exceed the costs. Discounted benefits for existing road users are valued at over $3.3 million.

The majority of project benefits are derived from savings in accident costs totalling $2.8 million, see Figure 75. The results imply that the project satisfies the objective of reducing the frequency of accidents. At a discount rate of 6%, the NPV of the proposed maintenance strategy is over $1.4 million and the BCR is 1.72.
5.2.2 Road widening with shoulder sealing

This case study will provide instruction on using CBA6 to conduct an evaluation of initiatives that involve both widening the road and providing a sealed shoulder.

5.2.2.1 Create new evaluation

The ‘create new evaluation screen’ is shown in Figure 76.

Note: ‘Based on existing evaluation’ option has been selected.

Figure 76: Road widening with shoulder sealing
5.2.2.2 Road details

The base case MRS is 7 (two-lane seal 5.3 m – 5.8 m without sealed shoulders). The project will widen the road to MRS 11 with sealed shoulders (two-lane seal 7.7 m – 8.2 m), see Figure 77.

Figure 77: Project case with sealed shoulders

5.2.2.3 Road traffic data

Traffic volumes will remain unchanged from the previous case study which included AADT of 300 vehicles per day.
5.2.2.4 Capital and maintenance costs

The provision of sealed shoulders is expected to incur an additional $500,000 in costs. Capital costs for this project will be $3 million, see Figure 78. For simplicity, maintenance and ongoing costs have remained consistent with the previous case study. However, in some instances, the provision of sealed shoulders may actually increase ongoing costs.

Figure 78: Widen and shoulder seal costs

5.2.2.5 Accident and other costs

Accident rates for roads with sealed shoulders are usually lower than for roads without sealed shoulders. In this case study, it is assumed that accident cost savings will comprise a greater proportion of benefits than the previous case study.

5.2.2.6 Results and decision criteria

The results of this evaluation are shown in Figure 79. Total benefits for this project are $3.7 million at the 6% discount rate. In the previous case study, total benefits for the project were only $3.6 million. However, the provision of sealed shoulders results in the BCR being lower than the BCR for the previous case study, and the project NPV at $1.56 million is higher than the previous case study that returned an NPV of $1.37 million. This result suggests that the additional funds to provide a sealed shoulder are economically justified in comparison to the previous case study. See Section 5.11 for further discussion on option analysis.
Figure 79: Road widen and shoulder seal decision criteria
5.3 Realignment

Road alignment can impact on vehicle speed and also traffic volume. Realignment projects are designed to improve unnecessary bends and make the road safer to traverse, and can be applied to the approaches of existing bridge structures and also to roads with poor design standards. In some cases realignment projects shorten the distance road users have to travel. Realignment projects that improve the horizontal alignment of the road could provide substantial TTC savings and accident cost savings.

5.3.1 Realignment case study

A regional road is curvy and only provides safe operating speeds of up to 80 kilometres per hour. The aim of this project is to straighten the alignment to allow for an increase in the posted speed limit. The new posted speed will be 100 kilometres per hour. Construction of this project will occur over two years and will reduce the road length from 2.5 kilometres to 2.3 kilometres.

5.3.2 Create new evaluation

To create a new evaluation, enter a road class of regional, a zone of dry reactive, an evaluation period of 32 years and a discount rate of 6% in the ‘create new evaluation’ screen. The boxes for advanced projects should not be ticked, see Figure 80.

Figure 80: Realignment case study

5.3.3 Road details

The ‘road details’ screens highlight the important difference between the base and project cases. In this example the horizontal alignment of the base case is specified as curvy while in the project case the new road design caters for speeds over 90 km/h. The project case horizontal alignment will be straight.
5.3.3.1 Base case

The base case road details are shown in Figure 81. The current horizontal alignment in the base case is curvy (please refer to Section 4.3 of the Technical Guide for tyre wear curvature parameters for curvy and very curvy roads).

*Figure 81: Realignment base case*
5.3.3.2 Project case

For the project case use the 'copy data from other case' button to transfer the data from main case. The following changes need to be made to the project case: Section length – as a result of the realignment the road has been shortened. The new section length is 2.3 km. The input with the largest influence on the benefits for this case study is the horizontal alignment. The project case will improve the road from curvy to straight. Figure 82 shows the road details for the realigned project case.

Figure 82: Realignment project case

5.3.4 Road traffic data

The road traffic data is the same for the base case and the project case. The AADT is 5000 in Year 1; the growth rate is 4% and compound. Traffic breakdown is 85% private cars, 5% commercial cars, 4% non-articulated, 2% buses, 2% articulated, 2% B-doubles, 0% road train type 1 and 0% road train type 2.

5.3.5 Capital and maintenance costs

The proposed project will have a construction timeframe of two years. Construction will occur in Year 2 with detailed design and minor works to be undertaken in Year 1. The maintenance strategy will also differ between the base and project cases.

5.3.5.1 Base case

Routine maintenance – enter $50 000 each year. Use the ‘quick edit’ button to populate the routine maintenance fields for the entire evaluation period. Periodic maintenance – enter $550 000 in Years 7, 21 and 28 in the ‘periodic maintenance’ row. Enter a reduction in roughness by 5 NRM in adjoining years. Rehabilitation – the current maintenance strategy for the road involves reconstruction costs of $2 million in Year 14. The roughness of the road will be reduced back to 50 NRM. Once all the maintenance data has been entered into CBA6 click ‘save’ and begin the same procedure for the project case.
5.3.5.2 Project case

For the project case enter the following:

Capital – the total cost for the project is $8 million. In Year 1 the costs will be $2 million with the remainder spent in Year 2. Routine maintenance – assume routine maintenance will be lower in the project case given there is less road to maintain. Routine maintenance will be $45 000 per annum. Periodic maintenance – $545 000 in Years 9, 23 and 30 with corresponding roughness reduction of 5 NRM. Rehabilitation – enter $1.95 million in Year 16 of the ‘rehabilitation’ row. Enter a new roughness of 50 NRM in the ‘reduces roughness to (NRM)’ row to correspond with the rehabilitation costs. Start year of benefits – the start year of benefits will be in Year 3. Residual value – this evaluation does not have a residual value. Once all the maintenance data has been entered in CBA6 click ‘save’. Use the ‘copy to clipboard’ button to graph the maintenance and roughness deterioration profile in a spreadsheet. This is useful when comparing the base and project cases. Figure 83 shows the capital and maintenance costs for the realignment project case.

Figure 83: Realignment costs

5.3.6 Accident and other costs

After the maintenance section of the evaluation is complete, the ‘accident and other costs’ box will be ticked automatically. The reduction in road length has provided savings in accident costs. Accident costs in the first year of the base case are estimated at $295 000 while the project case accident costs are only $271 000, see Figure 84.

Figure 84: Realignment accident costs
5.3.7 Results and decision criteria

In this example, the intention of the proposed project is to realign a poorly designed section of road. The new road will provide a safer, higher speed environment for road users. The project has a discounted cost of $6.9 million at the 6% discount rate, see Figure 85. There are some minor savings in maintenance costs due to the delay in periodic maintenance costs. The majority of project benefits comprise savings in VOC for road users. As expected the realignment provides a new route that reduces fuel consumption and improves vehicle performance. The NPV for the project is over $12.6 million at the discount rate of 6%. The BCR for this realignment project is 2.82 at a discount rate of 6% suggesting that this initiative is economically viable.

Figure 85: Realignment CBA results
5.4 Overtaking lane

Overtaking lanes are usually built where the terrain and geometry of a road causes slow vehicles to impede the general flow of traffic. Overtaking lanes can range in length from several hundred metres to several kilometres. Figure 86 shows a side-by-side overtaking lane.

*Figure 86: Overtaking lane*

The evaluation of overtaking lane projects differs from other projects as special methods apply to the calculation of benefits.

1. Capacity is improved along the length of the overtaking lane. Increased capacity at a given AADT allows higher speeds (reduced travel time) and a lower accident risk. The construction of the overtaking lane reduces the accident rate at this site by 25%.

2. The provision of a passing lane has a ‘downstream’ effect on traffic. Overtaking lanes cause a dispersion of the traffic platoons that accumulate behind slow vehicles. Depending on the distance between overtaking lanes and their length, they have the effect of increasing the capacity of the road section immediately following the end of the passing lanes. Because the slow vehicles are now at the end of the platoon, other vehicles can travel more quickly along this downstream section. These vehicles experience user cost reductions along the downstream section, and the risk of accidents is further reduced as the need for overtaking is reduced.

3. The upstream road section or the road section leading up to the overtaking lane will experience a reduction in the accident rate of 2.5%. The assumption is that road users will be aware of the overtaking lane ahead and will delay overtaking.
CBA6 contains default factors for the estimation of downstream benefits:

- length of downstream area: 5 km
- capacity increase in downstream area: 20%
- accident reduction in downstream area: 2.5%
- length of upstream area: 3 km
- accident reduction in the upstream area: 2.5%.

System users are able to change the default capacity increase in the downstream area if there is sufficient site-specific data to support this change, see Section 2.6.3.

For more information on the calculation of overtaking lane benefits see Section 2.4.5 of the *Theoretical Guide* and Section 8.4 of the *Technical Guide*.

CBA6 has three overtaking modules: single, head-to-head and side-by-side. The remainder of Section 5.4 will provide case studies for each type of overtaking lane.

### 5.4.1 Single overtaking lane

A single overtaking lane currently provides for overtaking in one direction only. The single overtaking lane directs slow moving traffic to the left-hand lane, while faster vehicles overtake via the right-hand lane. For a single overtaking lane, there is only one upstream and downstream area.

Note: Sections 5.4.2 and 5.4.3 give examples of two adjoining overtaking lanes which provide overtaking opportunities in both directions.

*Figure 87: Single overtaking lane*

5.4.1.1 Single overtaking lane case study

A TMR example is used as a basis for this case study. TMR's Northern Region has proposed a 2 km overtaking lane be built on the Bruce Highway between Emmett Creek and Mackenzie Creek. The project’s main objective is to improve travel times and safety on this section of the Bruce Highway.
The base case is defined as the existing 2 km section consisting of a two-lane undivided seal of MRS 12. Traffic levels on this part of the highway remain reasonably stable at around 4545 AADT and grow at around 2% per annum. The base case includes routine maintenance costs on the existing two-lane highway for the life of the project evaluation period, and some periodic maintenance in Year 7 with subsequent spending every five years.

The project case will involve the construction of a single overtaking lane in the northbound direction of the highway. The timing of maintenance activity in the project case will be the same as the base case, but maintenance costs will be around 50% higher.

5.4.1.2 Create new evaluation

Create a new evaluation as shown in Section 3.1 and previous case studies. For an overtaking lane project, tick the ‘overtaking lane’ box from the list of advanced modules. Select option 1 (1=single) from the overtaking lane drop-down menu, see Figure 88.

*Figure 88: Create new single overtaking lane evaluation*

Note: The ‘edit evaluation’ screen for a single overtaking lane is shown in Figure 89. The overtaking lane type is shown in the bottom left-hand corner.
5.4.1.3 Road details

The ‘road details’ screen for an overtaking lane is similar to previous case studies. For the base case the section length is 2 km, initial roughness 80 NRM, speed 100 km/h, pavement type is flexible and there is a sprayed surface seal. In the base case the horizontal alignment is straight and there is a rolling vertical alignment. The project case details are shown in Figure 90.

Note: The only available option for the project case road description is MRS 16: 3 lane overtaking.
5.4.1.4 Road traffic data

The road traffic data is the same for the base case and the project case, see Figure 91. The AADT is 4545 in Year 1; the growth rate is 2% compound per annum. Traffic breakdown is 80% private cars, 5% commercial cars, 4% non-articulated, 2% buses, 2% articulated, 7% B-doubles, 0% road train type 1 and 0% road train type 2.

Figure 91: Single overtaking lane traffic data
5.4.1.5 Downstream area

After the road traffic data has been entered for the base and project cases, a new drop-down option will appear for the 'downstream area case', see Figure 91. The downstream area in CBA6 refers to the area immediately after the overtaking lane, see Figure 92.

Figure 92: Single overtaking lane downstream area workspace
The downstream area case defines the road details for the highway immediately after the overtaking lane ends. System users will note that the section length has been defaulted to 5 km, see Figure 93. In this example the downstream area is assumed to have the same properties as the base case, however the downstream area has increased capacity of 20% over the base case road configuration. See Section 8.4.1 of the Technical Guide for further details on capacity increase. Use the 'copy data from other case' button to transfer the base case road details to the downstream area.

**Figure 93: Downstream area for single overtaking lane**

### 5.4.1.6 Capital and maintenance costs

Costs for the base and project cases can be found in Appendix A. As shown in Figure 94, the capital costs are $3 million in Year 1.

**Figure 94: Single overtaking lane costs**
5.4.1.7 Accident and other costs

The provision of overtaking lanes provides a number of safety benefits. CBA6 assumes that there will be a 25% reduction in the frequency of accidents on the overtaking lane section.

Figure 95: Single overtaking lane accident costs

5.4.1.8 Results and decision criteria

The project has a total discounted cost of $2.8 million at the 7% discount rate. There are some minor increases in maintenance costs to cater for the overtaking lane. The majority of project benefits are savings in TTC and accident costs. As expected, the overtaking lane saved motorists over $1.3 million in TTC and $500 000 in accident costs. This satisfies our objective to provide a safer road for vehicles to pass slower traffic. System users should note that private VOC benefits are negative at some discount rates. This is due to the increase in operating speed that is achieved from the increased capacity of the overtaking lane which subsequently increases fuel consumption. The impact of roughness on VOC benefits in later years is further reduced with higher discount rates. See Section 4.1 of the Technical Guide for further information on fuel consumption.

The NPV for this project is over $600 000 at the discount rate of 7%. The BCR for the single overtaking lane is 1.21 at the discount rate of 7%.
5.4.2 Head-to-head overtaking lane

A head-to-head overtaking lane configuration provides a passing lane in each direction. The passing lanes will be located so that they are not adjacent to each other. While the single overtaking lane caters for traffic in one direction, the head-to-head overtaking lane will provide passing opportunities on both sides of the road, see Figure 97.

Figure 97: head-to-head overtaking lane scaled
5.4.2.1 Head-to-head overtaking lane case study

This case study will build on the case study from Section 5.4.1.1. Assume that the region is proposing two separate overtaking lanes, one in each direction, on the Bruce Highway between Emmett Creek and Mackenzie Creek. The proposed upgrade of the site incorporates a total area of 4 km. All other data will remain the same (see Appendix A for further data inputs).

5.4.2.1.1 Create new evaluation

For an overtaking lane project, tick the ‘overtaking lane’ box from the list of advanced modules. From the overtaking lane drop-down menu select option 2 head-to-head, see Figure 98.

Figure 98: Head-to-head evaluation

Note: The ‘edit evaluation’ screen for the head-to-head overtaking lane is shown in Figure 99. The overtaking lane type is shown in the bottom left hand corner.
Figure 99: Head-to-head overtaking lane edit evaluation screen

Figure 100: Head-to-head road details
5.4.2.2 Road details

The ‘road details’ screen for a head-to-head overtaking lane remains similar to previous case studies. The section length needs to be altered to 4 km, see Figure 100. The project case MRS will be 16, as pavement improvement works will be undertaken together with the construction of the overtaking lanes. Initial roughness in the project case will be 60 NRM.

Figure 101: Head to head traffic data

5.4.2.3 Road traffic data

Road traffic data inputs are the same for the base case and the project case. The AADT is 4545 in Year 1; the growth rate is 2% and compound, see Figure 101.

Figure 102: Head-to-head downstream area
5.4.2.4 Downstream area

The downstream area case defines the road details for the highway immediately after the overtaking lane ends. The section length has now been defaulted to 10 km as there are effectively two downstream areas (immediately following the northbound overtaking lane and immediately following the southbound overtaking lane), see Figure 102.

Figure 103: Head-to-head overtaking lane costs

5.4.2.5 Capital and maintenance costs

Cost data for the base and project cases can be found in Appendix A. Project capital costs are now $6 million in Year 1 to allow for the construction of an additional overtaking lane in the southbound direction, see Figure 103.

Figure 104: Head-to-head accident costs

5.4.2.6 Accident and other costs

The head-to-head overtaking lane provides a significant reduction in accident frequency compared to the base case. Accident costs for the head-to-head overtaking lane are shown in Figure 103. See Section 8.4.2.2 of the Technical Guide for detailed information on head-to-head overtaking lane accident cost savings. It is useful to compare the accident cost savings of the head-to-head overtaking lane to the single overtaking lane shown in the previous case study (compare discounted accident cost savings of Figure 94 to Figure 104).
5.4.2.7 Results and decision criteria

In this example the proposed head-to-head overtaking lane should provide a safe passing opportunity for road users travelling in both directions on the Bruce Highway. Results for the head-to-head overtaking lane are shown in Figure 105.

The project has a total discounted cost of $5.6 million at the 7% discount rate. There are some minor increases in maintenance costs to cater for two overtaking lanes. The majority of project benefits are achieved through TTC savings and accident cost savings. As expected, the two overtaking lanes saved motorists over $3.4 million in TTC and $2 million in accident costs. This satisfies our objective to provide a safer road for vehicles to pass slower traffic on the Bruce Highway.

The NPV for the project is over $1 million at a discount rate of 7%. This is a significant increase over the NPV achieved for the preceding single overtaking lane example. If the cost per overtaking lane is kept constant (i.e., $3 million), the head-to-head overtaking lane should have a higher NPV than a single overtaking lane due to the increase in overtaking opportunities in both directions accompanied by the increase in downstream benefits. If the incremental increase in cost for an additional overtaking lane is above that of a single overtaking lane, the additional overtaking lane may not be viable.
5.4.3 Side-by-side overtaking lane

An alternative overtaking lane design to those presented in the previous two case studies is the side-by-side overtaking lane. A side-by-side design provides a passing lane in each direction and locates the lanes adjacent to each other. A side-by-side overtaking lane is essentially a duplication of the two existing lanes. Although a side-by-side overtaking lane and a duplication are similar, there are key design differences for the purpose of conducting an evaluation using CBA6.

Figure 106: Side-by-side overtaking lane

5.4.3.1 Side-by-side overtaking lane case study

This case study proposes a side-by-side overtaking lane as an alternative to the single overtaking lane from Section 5.4.1.1 or the head-to-head overtaking lane from Section 5.4.2.1. The project involves constructing a 2 km side-by-side overtaking lane on the Bruce Highway between Emmett Creek and Mackenzie Creek.
5.4.3.2 Create new evaluation

Create a new evaluation as per previous case studies. For an overtaking lane project tick the ‘overtaking lane’ box from the list of advanced modules. From the overtaking lane drop-down menu select option 3 side-by-side, see Figure 107.

*Figure 107: Side-by-side overtaking lane evaluation*

Note: The ‘edit evaluation’ screen for the side-by-side overtaking lane is shown in Figure 108. The overtaking lane type is shown in the bottom left hand corner.
5.4.3.3 Road details

The road details screen for a side-by-side overtaking lane is similar to the previous case studies. However, the only available option for the project case road description is MRS 17, four-lane undivided seal, see Figure 109. The default pavement type and surface type for MRS 17 have been adopted. The system user should change these inputs whenever appropriate.

Note: For the side-by-side evaluation, the section length is specified at 2 km whereas the section length for the head-to-head overtaking lane was 4 km.

Figure 109: Side-by-side overtaking lane road details
5.4.3.4 Road traffic data

The road traffic data inputs are the same for the base case and the project case. The AADT is 4545 in Year 1; the growth rate is 2% and compound. This is the same input data as the previous overtaking lane case studies, see Figure 101.

5.4.3.5 Downstream area

After the road traffic data has been entered for the base case and project case, a new drop-down option will appear for the ‘downstream area case’. System users will note that the section length has now been defaulted to 10 km to account for two downstream areas. Use the ‘copy data from other case’ button to transfer the base case road details to the downstream area. Before doing this, system users should check input data. For simplicity, the downstream area in both directions is assumed to have the same road characteristics, see Figure 110.

*Figure 110: Head to head downstream area*

5.4.3.6 Capital and maintenance costs

Cost data for the base and project cases can be found in Appendix A. Project capital costs are now $5.5 million in Year 1 to take into account costs on the side-by-side overtaking lanes. As the two overtaking lanes will be co-located, it will be assumed that costs will be lower compared to the costs of a head-to-head project.

5.4.3.7 Accident and other costs

The side-by-side overtaking lane will provide a number of safety benefits. See Section 8.4.2.3 of the *Technical Guide* for further information on the reduction in accidents for side-by-side overtaking lanes.
5.4.3.8 Results and decision criteria

In this example a side-by-side overtaking lane is proposed as an alternative to a head-to-head overtaking lane. Figure 111 presents the CBA results of the side-by-side overtaking lane. The BCR for this overtaking lane option is 0.98 which implies that the side-by-side overtaking lanes are not viable.

Figure 111: Side by side overtaking lane results
5.5 Road closure

The road closure module within CBA6 is relatively complex and requires the system user to collect a wide range of inputs before conducting a road project evaluation. System users will require detailed information on the project site and some understanding of traffic conditions in the immediate area of a project. CBA6 has two separate road closure modules: road closure (with diversion) and road closure. This manual uses the example of a flood immunity project to illustrate the module in CBA6. A road closure can be any type of closure.

5.5.1 Road closure (with diversion)

CBA6 can be used to evaluate flood improvement projects. Flood immunity projects require a detailed understanding of both the road network and road user behaviour. Road user responses to flooding can be quite variable depending on the frequency, severity and extent of flooding. Flood warning times and the availability of alternative routes will also affect the decisions made by road users. The following three options exist for road users affected by flooded roads:

- Wait – remain at the flood site for waters to subside.
- Divert – use an alternative route around the flood affected area.
- Do not travel – choose not to travel at all.

For all road closure projects CBA6 requires information and data on the average annual time of closure (AATOC) and the average duration of closure (ADC) for the base and project cases.

Before undertaking a flood immunity improvement project the system user should have sufficient knowledge of the following:
• flood area – frequency of flooding from historical evidence, at least 10 years

• travel demand – road users response to a closed road, number of vehicles that will wait, divert or choose not to travel

• diversion route – the road network and suitable alternative routes for road users

• network inundation – other affected roads.

Note: While this section highlights roads closed due to flooding, the same information and theory applies to other causes of road closures. These could include rock falls or land slippages.

5.5.1.1 Flood immunity improvement case study

This case study involves a bridge that is consistently inundated.

Table 3 shows the flood history for the project site. Based on information from the last 20 years there have been five flooding events where the ADC was 56 hours. The subsequent AATOC for the road over the last 20 years is 14 hours.

Table 3: Base case flooding history

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Base case flooding</th>
<th>Years</th>
<th>1</th>
<th>2</th>
<th>3</th>
<th>4</th>
<th>5</th>
<th>6</th>
<th>7</th>
<th>8</th>
<th>9</th>
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<th>15</th>
<th>16</th>
<th>17</th>
<th>18</th>
<th>19</th>
<th>20</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Number of floods</td>
<td></td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
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<td>0</td>
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<td>80</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

AATOC 14
ADC 56

From Figure 111, road users that choose to divert during road closures must travel an additional 40 km along Section C compared with the normal length of the road from Section X to Section Y.
TMR now proposes a Q100 standard bridge be built on the project site. Section A from Figure 112 is the 1 km flood affected section to be upgraded. All other input data for this case study is shown in Appendix A.

The appropriate sequence of data entry into CBA6 for road closure evaluations has been outlined in Section 5.5.1.2.

Figure 112: Flood and diversion route

5.5.1.2 Create new evaluation

To create a flood immunity improvement project using CBA6, the system user must ensure the ‘road closure’ and ‘diverting route’ boxes are ticked, see Figure 113. Selecting the ‘diverting route’ box will automatically tick the ‘road closure’ option.

Figure 113: Flood immunity new evaluation screen
After the flood immunity improvement project has been initially created in CBA6, there are a number of new input fields the system user is required to complete. From Figure 114, the new inputs include road closure details, diverting route case and the improved route case (input of data in CBA6 should follow the sequence of sections below).

**Figure 114: Flood immunity workspace**

### 5.5.1.3 Road details

The current 1 km section in the base case has an MRS of 10. The project case will provide a new bridge that is wider and has a better alignment. From Figure 115, the new bridge in the project case provides an MRS of 15 and a straight horizontal alignment.

**Figure 115: Road details for new bridge**
5.5.1.4 Road traffic data

The road traffic data for the flood affected section of road is the same for the base case and the project case. The AADT is 8000 in Year 1 with a linear growth rate of 3% per annum, see Figure 116. System users should note that CBA6 uses the same traffic configuration for both the project case and the diversion case.

Figure 116: Road traffic data flood affected section

5.5.1.5 Road closure details

The ‘road closure details’ screen displays the main inputs for a flood immunity improvement project. Here the system user is required to develop a pattern of road user behaviour when the road is flooded.

The flooding history of the road indicated an AATOC of 14 hours over the last 20 years. The duration of a flooding event at the site lasted 56 hours on average. In Figure 117 the behaviour of motorists is classified according to traffic not travelling, traffic waiting and those users that divert via an alternative route during a flooding event. Given that an average flooding event at a project site lasts for 56 hours, it is logical to assume that many road users will not wait at the project site, therefore only 10% of the traffic will choose to wait at the flood site. This proportion of the fleet represents local traffic. The remaining 90% of the traffic will choose to divert the additional 40 km.

Note: Traffic that chooses not to travel during the closure period will not incur any road user costs. Where the proportion of traffic that chooses not to travel is high, the system user should seek specialist advice to calculate these economic costs. In this example the percentage of vehicles travelling is zero. For simplicity the cost of not travelling has therefore been excluded from the analysis.

Figure 117: Base case road closures
The bridge to be built in the project case is designed to a Q100 standard. Based on historical flood levels, the average duration of closure for this bridge would be 10 hours. Traffic behaviour is assumed to change, as the time of closure is lower than in the base case. Details for the project case road closure is shown below in Figure 118. It has been assumed that 20% of road users will wait for flood levels to subside due to the lower average duration of closure.

Figure 118: Project case road closure details

Note: The AATOC for a Q100 bridge with an average duration of closure would be 0.1 hours (10 hours divided by 100 years). In CBA6 the AATOC and ADC can only be measured in hours, therefore in this example the AATOC has been rounded down to zero.

5.5.1.6 Capital and maintenance costs

The estimated capital costs for the project is $10 million. The expected breakdown of costs for the project is $3 million in Year 1 and $7 million in spending for Year 2. The project will open to road users in Year 3 and CBA6 will calculate benefits from this time, see Figure 119. The bridge is expected to have a useful life of 100 years, therefore a residual value has been developed to value the useful life of the bridge after the 30-year evaluation period has ended. See Section 9.7 of the Technical Guide for formulas to calculate the residual value.

Figure 119: New bridge costs
5.5.1.7 Accident and other costs

Accident costs will be automatically calculated by CBA6. The project provides savings in accident costs due to the change in MRS. During periods of road closure, increased traffic volumes will result in increased accidents on the diversion route, as diverting traffic will mix with existing road users. See Appendix C for a more detailed breakdown of benefits. Existing traffic volumes are used in CBA6 to determine the extent of congestion on the diverting route but no benefits or costs are attributed to them in the evaluation. See Section 8.1 of the Technical Guide for further explanations.

5.5.1.8 Diverting route road details

In this example the only available diversion route is a regional road. The traffic on the diversion route is referred to as existing traffic. In this example there are 1200 road users per day on the alternative route. The length of the alternative diversion route is 15 km, see Figure 120.

*Figure 120: Base case diversion route details*
System users can edit the project case diversion route details using the 'case' drop-down menu. In this example the project case diversion route has the same characteristics as the base case, see Figure 121.

The ‘project case details’ screen can be accessed to confirm the project case details, but any changes to the project case will also change the base case. The only variable that will change is the traffic data. Only 6400 road users will choose to divert in the project case compared with 7200 in the base case. This reflects the change in driver behaviour between the base and project cases. The new bridge in the project case has a shorter closure period. This means more road users will wait for the flood waters to subside and fewer road users will be inclined to travel the extra distance on the diversion route.

*Figure 121: Project case diversion route details*
5.5.1.9 Diverting route traffic data

The road traffic data for the diversion route is the next required input, see Figure 122.

*Figure 122: Diverting route workspace*

The only available option for system users is to adjust the traffic breakdown for the diversion route, as the initial AADT will be calculated automatically from CBA6 using data previously input by the system user. System users will note that the AADT includes the existing traffic on the diversion route, see Figure 123. In this case study, traffic breakdown of existing traffic is the same as diverting traffic.

*Figure 123: Base case diverting route traffic*
System users must also complete the diverting route project case road traffic data, see Figure 124.

**Figure 124: Project case diverting route**

![Diverting Route Project Case Road Traffic Data](image)

### 5.5.1.10 Improved route details

The improved route is the normal section of road that is used when the road is open to traffic (Section B in Figure 110). The system user is required to define the length of the improved route from the beginning to the end of the diversion route. The improved route will therefore remain the same between the base and project cases. In Figure 125, the improved route is shown as 10 km (includes the 1 km for Section A).

**Figure 125: Improved route details**

![Improved Route Details](image)
5.5.1.11 Results and decision criteria

In this example, the proposed project involves construction of a new bridge with Q100 flood immunity. The project has a total discounted capital cost of $9 million at the 6% discount rate. There are some savings in costs due to the inclusion of the residual value.

The majority of project benefits comprise TTC savings for road users. In the base case road users suffered delays waiting for flood waters to subside and increased journey times via the diversion route. This new bridge provides a better flood immunity for the site. The ‘discounted road closure savings’ row shows the delay costs for road users waiting for flood levels to subside. There is a saving of $3.6 million in waiting costs.

The NPV for the project is over $19.8 million at the discount rate of 6%. An NPV above zero is an indicator that the project will improve economic welfare. The BCR for the new bridge is 4.33 at the discount rate of 6% which suggests that the project is economically viable.

Figure 126: Flood immunity improvement results

Note: To test for any uncertainty in the input data, system users can re-run the evaluation under different assumptions such as changes to the time of closure details, traffic behaviour during road closures or existing traffic on the diversion route. Alternatively, the sensitivity results shown in the printed CBA6 report can be used as a reference point.

5.5.2 Road closure (without diversion)

The road closure module in CBA6 is used for projects that are associated with frequent road closures without suitable diversion routes. As is the case with the road closure with diversion module, the road closure module will require system users to possess a wide range of data inputs and also have some understanding of local traffic conditions.

The following two options exist for road users affected by flooded roads:

- Wait – remain at the flood site for waters to subside.
- Do not travel – choose not to travel at all.
Before undertaking a flood immunity improvement project, the system user must be in possession of project data including AATOC and ADC for the base and project cases.

5.5.2.1 Road closure case study

This case study involves a low lying road that floods during the wet season. This occurs every year with an average duration of closure of 12 hours. This road is an important freight link used by a number of heavy vehicles. As there is no suitable diversion route, it is assumed that all vehicles will wait at the flood affected site.

TMR will raise the height of the road through earth works and provide a culvert to eliminate future road closures.

5.5.2.2 Create new evaluation

To create a road closure project the system user must ensure the ‘road closure’ box is ticked, see Figure 127.

*Figure 127: Road details for culvert*

5.5.2.3 Road details

The ‘road details’ screen describes the section of road to be upgraded and improved in the project case. The current road has a roughness of 110 NRM while the project works will provide a new seal of 60 NRM, see Figure 128. All other input data will remain the same.
5.5.2.4 Road closure details

Historical records suggest that this road floods for 12 hours every year. In the base case the AATOC is 12 hours and the corresponding ADC is 12 hours, therefore the estimated frequency of road closures over the evaluation period is one closure of 12 hours every year, see Figure 129. Longer road closures are likely to result in less traffic waiting at the project site and more traffic choosing not to travel (see Section 5.5.1 for further information on the costs of not travelling). As there is no suitable alternative route in this case study, it is assumed that all vehicles will wait at the project site for the flood to subside. If an alternative route is available some vehicles will elect to use it.
New culvert and earthworks will eliminate all future road closures caused by flooding. Road closure details for the project case are shown in Figure 130.

*Figure 130: Project case road closures*

5.5.2.5 Capital and maintenance costs

Construction will occur over a one-year time frame. The estimated cost for the project is $800 000 with the project being commissioned in Year 2. It is assumed that maintenance capital costs will remain the same in the base and project cases, therefore the net result will be zero.

5.5.2.6 Accident and other costs

Accident costs will be calculated automatically by CBA6. However as there is no change in MRS between the base and project cases there are no accident cost savings recorded.
5.5.2.7 Results and decision criteria

In this example, a culvert will be built to stop the frequent flooding that occurs along a regional road. The road closure savings for this project are over $1 million while the BCR is 1.69 at the 6% discount rate. The FYRR for the project of 8.77% shows that at current traffic volumes, immediate construction of the project is warranted.

*Figure 131: Road closure results*
5.6 Intersection

Intersection evaluations can be undertaken in CBA6 using the intersection module. CBA6 has been designed to use output information from the SIDRA intersection performance tool. Before undertaking an economic evaluation in CBA6, the system user will require traffic modelling results from SIDRA. System users should seek support from the CBA Team when using alternative traffic models.

The CBA6 intersection module takes into account queuing behaviour and delays within the boundaries of the intersection and determines the impact on travel time and fuel costs. Changes in VOC other than fuel are not calculated by CBA6 or SIDRA.

The intersections module is best used for evaluating projects which are not expected to have significant network effects. A transport network model or microsimulation tool should be used if the intersection under evaluation is expected to have significant effects on traffic volumes or speeds of connecting links.

The CBA6 intersection module can be used for:

- intersection only projects such as replacing an unsignalised intersection with a roundabout or signals
- intersection projects which are expected to cause traffic diversions to or from alternate routes. The evaluation would be made up of composite runs of CBA6 using the intersection module and the normal road module of CBA6 for estimating benefits to existing and diverting traffic. The ‘linking projects’ function would be used to combine the individual components into a total project, see Section 5.13.

Note: CBA6 has been specifically designed to use outputs from SIDRA, although it may be possible to use outputs from other intersection modelling tools. System users should consult with the CBA Team before attempting to use outputs from other modelling tools.

5.6.1 Intersection case study

This case study involves the signalisation of a simple intersection which connects a local road to an arterial road. Currently, a stop sign on the local road controls vehicular access to the arterial road. During afternoon peak periods there are significant delays to traffic merging onto the arterial road. The intersection is currently oversaturated. A signalised intersection will reduce these delays and increase safety at the site by controlling all vehicle movements. The project will take one year to construct and will have a useful life of 10 years. To determine the savings in delay times, a SIDRA analysis was undertaken on both the current intersection and the new signalised intersection. The results of the SIDRA analysis for the base case (stop sign) intersection are shown in Table 4. Figure 132 illustrates the structure of the T intersection.

Table 4: SIDRA base case (unsignalised)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Period</th>
<th>Duration (hours)</th>
<th>Vehicles per hour</th>
<th>Average delay (S/veh)</th>
<th>Fuel consumption (L/h (total))</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Year 1</td>
<td>Morning</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2,203</td>
<td>28.2</td>
<td>152.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>afternoon</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2,361</td>
<td>36.3</td>
<td>161.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 11</td>
<td>Morning</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2,646</td>
<td>181.1</td>
<td>335.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>afternoon</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2,835</td>
<td>327</td>
<td>503.4</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
The results of the SIDRA analysis for the project case (signalised) intersection are shown in Table 5.

**Table 5: SIDRA project case (signalised)**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Period</th>
<th>Duration (hours)</th>
<th>Vehicles per hour</th>
<th>Average delay (S/veh)</th>
<th>Fuel consumption (L/h (total))</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Year 1</td>
<td>Morning peak</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2,203</td>
<td>4.4</td>
<td>122.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Afternoon peak</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2,361</td>
<td>3.7</td>
<td>126.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 11</td>
<td>Morning peak</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2,646</td>
<td>56.9</td>
<td>235.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Afternoon peak</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2,835</td>
<td>6.7</td>
<td>172.2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Note:**

- The operation of the signals in combination with the large volume of traffic coming from the east in the morning reduces the effectiveness of the signals in the morning peak period relative to the afternoon peak period.
- Data for Years 1 to 11 will be interpolated by CBA6 using a simple liner technique, see Section 5.5.3.

### 5.6.2 Create new evaluation

To create a new intersection evaluation, ensure the ‘new intersection evaluation’ option is selected, see Figure 133. This will disable all other evaluation modules.
Note: The evaluation period is 11 years which includes one year for construction and 10 years of operation. The urban speed environment is selected as the project is located in the middle of a town.

**Figure 133: Intersection new evaluation**

The intersection module operates from a different node tree to road projects modules. From Figure 134, the new input field is 'intersection data'. The 'intersection data' screen is where the SIDRA data is required to be input.

**Figure 134: Intersection workspace**
5.6.3 Intersection data

For this case study, the SIDRA analysis was only undertaken for the peak morning and afternoon periods of the day. The default time periods for an analysis in CBA6 include the peak periods, non-peak periods, night and weekends, see Figure 135.

Figure 135: Intersection traffic data

To input the base case data, fill in the required fields in Figure 136. After entering the data for Year 1, click 'save'.

Figure 136: Base case intersection data Year 1

Note: Generally SIDRA analysis will only be undertaken for the peak periods. When this is the case, all other periods must be set to zero.

The next step requires the system user to enter the final year of SIDRA data in Year 11, see Figure 137.
To calculate the SIDRA results for the remaining years, CBA6 interpolates the data from Years 1 to 11. From Figure 138 the system user is required to use the ‘calculate other years’ button. This process is repeated for the project case SIDRA data.
5.6.4 Capital and maintenance costs

Current maintenance and operational costs for the base case (stop sign controlled intersection) is $2000 per annum. The capital costs for the new signalised intersection are estimated at $1.5 million and will cost $15 000 each year to operate, see Figure 139.

Figure 139: Intersection costs

5.6.5 Accident and other costs

Accident costs in the intersection module have to be calculated manually by the system user. In this case study accident costs for the base case are $50 000 per year. The improved safety conditions in the project case reduced accident costs to $25 000 per year. For detail on the manual calculation of accident costs, see Section 6 of the Technical Guide. Accident costs can also be calculated by using DCA codes.

See Section 7 of the Technical Guide for further details on externality costs.

5.6.6 Results and decision criteria

In this case study, the proposed project provides a signalised intersection as an alternative to a stop sign controlled environment. The project has a total discounted cost of $1.4 million at the 6% discount rate. There is an increase in the operational costs of the project to account for traffic systems and other costs associated with maintaining a signalised intersection.

TTC savings for private road users represent the majority of the benefits derived from this project. In the base case, road users suffer significant delays in the afternoon peak period. The new signalised intersection will significantly reduce delays and the associated over saturation of the intersection.

The results of this case study provide strong justification for the project. The NPV of $6.0 million at the discount rate of 6%, and a BCR of 5.06 suggest that the signalisation of this intersection will yield significant economic benefits, see Figure 140. The BCR is particularly high due to the significant reduction in travel delays as a result of the signalised intersection.
Figure 140: Intersection results and decision criteria

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Results</th>
<th>Decision Criteria Recalc No. 4</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Discount Rate</td>
<td>4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Discounted Costs</td>
<td>1,541,771</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Discounted Capital Costs</td>
<td>1,442,019</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Discounted Other Costs</td>
<td>99,452</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Discounted Benefits</td>
<td>6,756,323</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Private TTC Savings</td>
<td>6,496,718</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Commercial TTC Savings</td>
<td>1,607,005</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Private VDC Savings</td>
<td>591,563</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Commercial VDC Savings</td>
<td>40,741</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Discounted Accident Savings</td>
<td>194,372</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Discounted Evasion Savings</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Discounted Environment Savings</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Discounted Scrappage Savings</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Discounted Other Savings</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Discounted Fixed Closure Savings</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Discounted Livestock Damage Benefits</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Discounted Armed Traffic Benefits</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Net Present Value (NPV)</td>
<td>2,216,157</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Net Present Value per dollar Investment</td>
<td>8,60</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Benefit Cost Ratio Excl Private Time</td>
<td>1,47</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Benefit Cost Ratio</td>
<td>0,38</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>First Year Rate of Return</td>
<td>24.31%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
5.7 Duplication

A road duplication project is designed to double the existing lanes of a road. Road duplications are commonly applied to arterial roads or highways where there is sufficient demand to warrant a major upgrade. The purpose of a road duplication is to provide increased road capacity to enable traffic volumes to continue to grow.

Note: Road duplication projects are sometimes referred to as road widening projects. Road widening refers to increasing only the seal width of a road. Highway upgrades from four to six lanes are not technically referred to as a duplication. Also road duplication projects are often associated with an increase in traffic demand above the underlying growth which results in ‘generated traffic’. If a road duplication initiative generates additional traffic, the system user should follow the example set out in Section 5.9.

5.7.1 Duplication case study

This case study involves the evaluation of a two-lane highway that requires duplication. Currently 12,000 vehicles per day use the highway and growth of 5% per annum is assumed. The proposed project will duplicate the road for 3 km and provide a divided seal to increase safety.

5.7.2 Create new evaluation

The ‘create new evaluation’ screen is similar to other case studies. No advanced modules need to be selected, see Figure 141. All case study data is shown in Appendix A.

Figure 141: Duplication evaluation
5.7.3 Road details

The main input used in a duplication project is the MRS. In the base case, the current road is two lanes with a seal width of 9.4 metres and sealed shoulders, see Figure 142.

Figure 142: Base case road details 2 lanes

The project will significantly upgrade the road to a four-lane divided highway with an improved surface. From Figure 143 an MRS of 19 is selected in the project case. The default pavement and surface types for MRS 19 are rigid and concrete respectively.

Figure 143: Duplication details
5.7.4 Road traffic data

The AADT is expected to remain the same between the base and project cases. Initial AADT is 12 000 with an annual growth rate of 5%, see Figure 144.

Figure 144: Duplication road traffic data

5.7.5 Capital and maintenance costs

The capital cost for the duplication is estimated at $51 million over two years. Initial site works will begin in Year 1, with the majority of the capital costs being incurred in construction during Year 2. Maintenance costs in the project case are estimated to more than double. Figure 145 shows the cost distribution for the project. The first year of operation will be in Year 3. All other costs, including base case maintenance costs, are shown in Appendix A.

Figure 145: Duplication costs
5.7.6 Accident and other costs

The road duplication project and new divided seal will improve safety along the highway. Accident cost savings are estimated at over $3.3 million, see Figure 145. A highway with a divided seal is expected to provide a reduced accident rate. See Section 6 of the Technical Guide for further information on accident rates for each MRS.

5.7.7 Results and decision criteria

To cope with increasing traffic volumes along the highway, TMR has proposed a duplication to improve highway conditions. The BCR for the project is 1.75 while the NPV is $35,879,544 at the 4% discount rate. At the 7% discount rate, the BCR is 0.99 and the NPV is $593,015, see Figure 146. The large difference in NPV at the two discount rates can be explained by the low FYRR (1.57 and 1.53 at the 4% and 6% discount rates respectively) which implies that project benefits lie in the future. Delaying this project by a few years will improve its economic viability.

The majority of benefits are TTC savings. This is due to congestion in the base case. Private and commercial VOC savings for this project are negative. The results also show that private VOC benefits decrease at higher discount rates while commercial VOC benefits increase at higher discount rates. This is due to the relationship between operating speed and VOC for private vehicles. See Section 3 of the Technical Guide for further information on operating speed.

Figure 146: Duplication results
5.8 Bypass

A bypass is a new road which reroutes traffic around a town or built-up area. There are different types of bypass projects, for example a bypass can be due to a rock fall or a flooding event. A bypass project involves the permanent re-route of a road whereas a diversion project is a temporary workaround. Evaluations of bypasses tend to be data intensive depending on the magnitude of the bypass. For example, in a town bypass, the project case has an origin from the proposed deviation and a destination where the bypass rejoins the original route. A bypass of this nature has the capacity to bypass multiple individual road links. In reality, bypassing a town will have a number of commercial and social impacts that may need to be evaluated. Due to the complexity of the bypass evaluations, system users must carefully consider the base case and the bypass option prior to attempting to establish the methodology. It is recommended that specialist advice be sought as early as practical. See Section 2.4.3 of the Theoretical Guide for more information on bypass evaluations.

A town bypass provides a separation between highway traffic and local commuters. Town bypasses can reduce local congestion, reduce highway traffic travel time, improve safety, reduce noise and increase air quality. This case study will provide a simple example of a town bypass. In this example the only impacts under consideration are road user costs and capital costs.

Note: This module can be used to evaluate projects where some vehicles need to divert around a road due to lack of proper access. For example, a low clearance bridge, or a bridge with a low load capacity, will require some vehicles to divert around the road via an alternative route.

5.8.1 Bypass case study

This case study involves the evaluation of a state-controlled highway that passes through a major rural town. Highway traffic passing through the town is delayed by reduced speed limits, congestion and delays at intersections. A proposed bypass of the town will provide TTC savings for highway traffic.

The new road will bypass four discrete sections of road from the existing highway. The sections to be analysed in the case study are shown in Figure 147. These sections currently carry between 4000 and 8000 vehicles per day. Of these, 2000 are passing through the town and are expected to divert to the proposed bypass. A large proportion of the traffic (around 23% of all trips), is for business purposes.

The capital costs of the proposed bypass are $85 million including simple intersection works at either end. In this case study, the effects of the intersection works on users and safety will be marginal. Note: In reality, intersections could be discretely analysed using the ‘intersections’ module, and combined with the results of the base case and project case sections using ‘link projects’.

5.8.1.1 Base case

The main street funnels highway traffic in both directions through the town. The purpose of this project is to divert highway traffic around the town through the construction of a bypass.

The existing route includes four sections. Sections 2 and 3 comprise the main street. Each section has the same model road state but the traffic volumes differ. Sections 1 and 4 have an AADT of 4000, and Sections 2 and 3 have an AADT of 8000. The first and fourth sections are part of the current highway alignment. These are included so that the base case and the project case have common end points.

The maximum speed along the main street is suppressed as a proxy for the impedance of intersections. To do this the ‘posted speed limit’ is specified at 40 km/h (this speed estimate will vary depending on the project).

Note: The bypass is not an element of the base case because it is at this stage only a proposal. If the bypass took the form of upgrading an existing route, that existing route with its current MRS, condition and traffic would be part of the base case.
5.8.1.2 Project case

The project case contains five sections. The first section is the proposed bypass or new road. The remaining four sections are the existing sections of road passing through the town. On each base case section, 2000 vehicles are assumed to divert to the project case route.

For simplicity, there is no generated traffic in the project case. Bypass projects such as this may generate traffic. Judgement needs to be made about the scope of analysis which can be achieved. It is usually best to leave generated traffic out of the analysis.

For simplicity, intersection effects at either end of the town are negligible.

*Figure 147: Bypass*

Table 6 shows the sections used in the case study. The first step is to identify the sections or segments making up the base and the project cases. If road descriptions and AADT vary frequently along the routes being evaluated, then the sections will be aggregated on a ‘most common characteristics’ basis. See Section 2.4.3 of the *Theoretical Guide* for more information on bypass evaluations.

Note: In this simplified case study, the safe operating speed on the existing road is assumed to be 40 for all four sections.
Table 6: Town bypass base and project case

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Town bypass</th>
<th>Section 1</th>
<th></th>
<th>Section 2</th>
<th></th>
<th>Section 3</th>
<th></th>
<th>Section 4</th>
<th></th>
<th>Bypass</th>
<th>B</th>
<th>P</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mrs</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>N/a</td>
<td>15</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Section length</td>
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<td>1</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>N/a</td>
<td>7</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
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<td>75</td>
<td>75</td>
<td>75</td>
<td>75</td>
<td>75</td>
<td>75</td>
<td>75</td>
<td>N/a</td>
<td>50</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Safe operating speed</td>
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<td>40</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>N/a</td>
<td>100</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
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<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>N/a</td>
<td>3</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Surface type</td>
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<td>3</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>N/a</td>
<td>4</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Horizontal alignment</td>
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<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>N/a</td>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vertical alignment</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>N/a</td>
<td>1</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>AADT</td>
<td>4000</td>
<td>2000</td>
<td>8000</td>
<td>6000</td>
<td>8000</td>
<td>6000</td>
<td>4000</td>
<td>2000</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>2000</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Private</td>
<td>82.0%</td>
<td>88.0%</td>
<td>82.0%</td>
<td>84.0%</td>
<td>82.0%</td>
<td>84.0%</td>
<td>82.0%</td>
<td>88.0%</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
<td>76.0%</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Commercial</td>
<td>11.0%</td>
<td>9.0%</td>
<td>11.0%</td>
<td>10.3%</td>
<td>11.0%</td>
<td>10.3%</td>
<td>11.0%</td>
<td>9.0%</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
<td>13.0%</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Non-Aortic</td>
<td>3.3%</td>
<td>1.6%</td>
<td>3.3%</td>
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<td>3.3%</td>
<td>2.7%</td>
<td>3.3%</td>
<td>1.6%</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
<td>5.0%</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Buses</td>
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<td>1.0%</td>
<td>1.0%</td>
<td>1.0%</td>
<td>1.0%</td>
<td>1.0%</td>
<td>1.0%</td>
<td>1.0%</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
<td>1.0%</td>
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</tr>
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<td>Aortic</td>
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<td>0.8%</td>
<td>1.1%</td>
<td>0.8%</td>
<td>1.1%</td>
<td>0.2%</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
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<tr>
<td>B-double</td>
<td>1.6%</td>
<td>0.2%</td>
<td>1.6%</td>
<td>1.1%</td>
<td>1.6%</td>
<td>1.1%</td>
<td>1.6%</td>
<td>0.2%</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
<td>3.0%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rt1</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rt2</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Growth rate (% pa linear)</td>
<td>3.0%</td>
<td>3.0%</td>
<td>3.0%</td>
<td>3.0%</td>
<td>3.0%</td>
<td>3.0%</td>
<td>3.0%</td>
<td>3.0%</td>
<td>N/a</td>
<td>3.0%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

See Section 8.7 of the Technical Guide for derivation of AADT calculations.

Note: Bypass costs in the base case are negligible because base case traffic is set to zero (AADT=0).
5.8.2 Create new evaluation

To create a bypass evaluation, the ‘bypass’ option must be selected. In this case study there will be four sections bypassed. In Figure 148 the bypass box is ticked and ‘4’ has been entered in the ‘sections to be bypassed’ field.

*Figure 148: Bypass evaluation*
As shown in Figure 148 the bypass evaluation will have a number of data input fields for the various road sections. The new bypass section in the CBA6 node tree is represented by both the ‘base road case’ and ‘project road case’ fields. Section 1 in Figure 147 matches the ‘base existing Section 1’ from Figure 149, with other sections following accordingly.

Figure 149: Bypass workspace
5.8.3 Road details

In this case study the bypass will be a newly built road and not an upgrade to an existing route. Therefore, the ‘base road case’ field is superfluous (likewise the ‘road traffic data’ screen will show zero traffic). If this project was an upgrade to an existing road the ‘road details’ screen would need to be correctly completed. For illustrative purposes the base case road details can be entered as shown in Figure 150.

Figure 150: Bypass base case

The proposed bypass (project road case) will be a new two-lane highway. Details for the bypass section are shown in Figure 151.

Figure 151: Bypass road details
5.8.4 Road traffic data

The road traffic data for the bypass is the next input field, see Figure 152.

*Figure 152: Bypass road traffic data workspace*

Here the system user is now required to enter the traffic that will divert from the old highway to the new bypass. In Table 5, the breakdown of traffic for the bypass is shown. 2000 vehicles per day will use the new bypass, see Figure 153.

*Figure 153: Traffic on bypass*
Note: In the base case traffic data screen, 0 must be entered for all years of the evaluation.

5.8.5 Capital and maintenance costs

The ‘capital and maintenance costs’ screen refers to the bypass section only. In the base case maintenance will be $50,000. Roughness deterioration is not calculated in CBA6 for the existing route within the bypass module. The cost to build the new bypass is estimated at $60 million. The new bypass will be resealed every seven years, starting from Year 8 at a cost of $1 million for each reseal with the exception of Year 22. Figure 154 shows the cost forecast for the project.

Figure 154: Bypass costs

Note: The system user is not required to enter maintenance data for the four existing routes. Maintenance costs for the existing routes are not expected to change between the base and project cases. As a result, the roughness measure on the existing routes will not change between the base and project cases, therefore the net result will be zero.

5.8.6 Accident and other costs

Accident costs will be automatically calculated by CBA6. The accident rate on the existing routes will decline due to reduced traffic after the bypass is completed. The accident rate on the new bypass will increase from zero before the bypass is constructed to a positive accident rate after it is opened to traffic. The net result should be an overall reduction in accidents as the bypass is a shorter length compared with the existing routes.

Note: Other costs and benefits relevant to a bypass evaluation may include a reduction in externalities such as noise levels on the existing route, as highway traffic now bypasses local roads and residents. See Section 7 of the Technical Guide for further information on calculation of these costs and benefits.

5.8.7 Existing sections

The next step after the bypass section details have been completed is to input the data for the existing road sections. The road details and traffic input data for each existing section is shown in Table 6. The input screens for the existing road sections are the same as for previous case studies. With the provision of the bypass, it is assumed that 2000 vehicles will choose to travel along the upgrade (higher throughput and reduced travel cost), while the remaining road users travel along the existing sections (local road users). These ‘switching’ vehicles are represented in the project case of the bypass in Figure 147.
5.8.7.1 Existing Section 1

Road details for Section 1 are shown in Figure 155.

*Figure 155: Existing Section 1 road details*

Traffic data for the existing Section 1 in the base case is shown in Figure 156. An estimated average of 4000 vehicles travel on this section every day.

*Figure 156: Existing Section 1 base case traffic*

After the bypass is built, only 2000 vehicles per day will travel on Section 1, see Figure 157.
After all input data has been saved, the results of the bypass evaluation can be calculated, see Figure 158.

**Figure 157: Existing Section 1 project case traffic**

![Figure 157: Existing Section 1 project case traffic](image)

**Figure 158: Town bypass workspace**

![Figure 158: Town bypass workspace](image)
5.8.8 Results and decision criteria

The new $60 million bypass provides a BCR of 1.44 at the 6% discount rate, see Figure 159. The majority of benefits comprise savings in journey time. In the base case, the average speed through the town was 40 km/h which incorporated delays at intersections. The new bypass enables highway traffic to travel at 100 km/h. Commercial vehicles are estimated to gain over $22 million in TTC savings, which satisfies the project objective to better cater for business travel. Around 10% of the project benefits relate to the reduction in accidents through the town. See Section 2.4.3 of the *Theoretical Guide* for more information on bypass evaluations.

*Figure 159: Bypass results*

Note: For further information on the calculation of bypass benefits, see Section 8.7 of the *Technical Guide*. 
5.9 Unsealed roads

A large proportion of Queensland’s road network comprises unsealed roads; some of these roads have been designated as development roads. Unsealed roads often suffer from corrugation and other surface defects which impact negatively on vehicle ride, speed and safety. Progressively upgrading these roads by sealing the surface will therefore significantly reduce VOC savings and TTC savings. CBA6 values the benefits of road sealing initiatives and also calculates the benefits to livestock transport. Refer to Section 8.6 of the Technical Guide for details of livestock calculations.

The primary economic benefits from sealing roads are derived from the reduction in damage to livestock. Other benefits include access to remote areas, especially during the wet season. Rain and flooding can destroy unsealed roads which then require significant costs to rehabilitate. In these instances, a sealed road will have smaller maintenance costs than an unsealed road.

5.9.1 Unsealed road case study

For this case study, it is assumed that connectivity between two remote communities is provided via a 12 km section of unsealed developmental road. The road is not subject to flooding. Sealing the road will provide a better road surface and improved access. This region is reliant on primary production, and consequently there is a high proportion of road train livestock freight in the current vehicle fleet. The AADT for the development road is 125 vehicles per day, 17% of which are road trains. The project will provide a sprayed seal surface with construction occurring over one year at a cost of $6 million.

5.9.2 Create new evaluation

This project will benefit livestock operators using the new sealed road. See Section 2.4.4 of the Theoretical Guide for further information on livestock impacts. The ‘livestock damage’ option is ticked as seen in Figure 160. Not all road sealing projects will have livestock benefits. This option should only be used when appropriate.

Figure 160: Unsealed road evaluation
Note: When the livestock damage option is selected, CBA6 will automatically assign the appropriate options of MRS available for the base case.

5.9.3 Road details

*Figure 161: Unsealed road in the base case*

![Unsealed road in the base case](image)

The project case will provide a new sprayed surface road. Details for the project case are shown in Figure 162. The improved road surface enables an increase in the safe operating speed.

*Figure 162: Sealed project case*

![Sealed project case](image)
5.9.4 Road traffic data

The ‘road traffic data’ screen for road sealing projects is different from other case studies. CBA6 requires data on the proportion of heavy vehicles carrying livestock. The base case traffic data is shown in Figure 163. It is assumed that all road trains carry livestock while only half of the articulated and B-double vehicles transport livestock. Annual traffic growth is 1% linear and traffic data will remain the same between the base and project cases.

Figure 163: Unsealed road traffic data with livestock

5.9.5 Capital and maintenance costs

Routine maintenance costs in the base case are $20 000 per year. The estimated capital cost for the project is $6 million with routine maintenance of $25 000 per year. Periodic maintenance will occur every 7 years which will reduce roughness by 5 NRM. Project case costs are shown in Figure 164.

Figure 164: Sealed road costs
5.9.6 Accident and other costs

Accident costs are calculated automatically by CBA6 in the base and project cases. As the primary aim of this project is to seal an unsealed road, accident cost savings do not comprise a major benefit.

5.9.7 Results and decision criteria

The sealed road project has a BCR of 1.32 at the 6% discount rate. The FYRR is high at 8.6% indicating that the project need not be delayed.

The majority of project benefits accrue from savings in VOC for commercial vehicles. This is not surprising given the condition of an unsealed road. A new sealed road will provide a much smoother ride for freight vehicles. There are also significant livestock benefits for transport operators with savings of around $1.8 million in livestock damage costs.

Figure 165: Sealed road results

Note: The 'discounted accident savings' row shows disbenefits for accidents. This implies that there will be an increase in accidents in the project case. CBA6 uses data from around the state to determine the accident rate for certain road types to form a representative state average. In this example, the accident frequency of an MRS 1 is less than on an MRS 7. As with every case study, if site specific data exists, the system user should manually calculate accident costs by selecting the 'manual accident cost' option in the 'create new evaluation' screen.
5.10 Generated traffic

AADT is normally the same for both the base and project cases. Generated traffic is managed as a separate node and is the additional number of trips expected to be made by road users in response to perceived reductions in costs from a proposed road project initiative. The extent of generated traffic depends upon the sensitivity of road travel to a change in the perceived costs of road travel along a particular route.

CBA6 calculates generated traffic benefits by estimating the increase in consumer surplus attributed to the upgrade. This method of deriving generated traffic benefits is referred to as the ‘rule of half’ as the gain in the consumer surplus forms a triangle. For more information on generated traffic, see Section 2.4.2 of the Theoretical Guide.

5.10.1 Generated traffic case study

This case study will show a simplified example of generated traffic. In this example, access to a coastal community is only available by a poorly designed narrow road. The condition of the current road results in a slow trip to the community from the main highway. Economic growth is constricted due to lack of proper access. TMR proposes a significant upgrade to the existing road. The new road is anticipated to generate an additional 150 trips per day in the first year of opening. Savings in TTC is the main reason for increased demand in road traffic.

Note: CBA6 only calculates benefits to road users and assumes that the savings in road user costs will be passed on to the community. Therefore additional benefits are implicitly calculated through TTC savings and VOC savings. Additional flow-on effects beyond these benefits should be calculated by an economist.

5.10.2 Create new evaluation

To create a generated traffic evaluation the ‘generated traffic’ option must be selected as shown in Figure 166.

*Figure 166: Generated traffic evaluation*
The generated traffic node tree is different to other case studies, see Figure 167. The ‘generated traffic’ data screen requires the system user to enter the estimated number of increased trips made per day.

*Figure 167: Generated traffic workspace*

5.10.3 Road details

The road details for the current road are shown in Figure 168. The base case is a narrow road with poor horizontal and vertical alignment.

*Figure 168: Base case road to coastal town*

The new road will provide a safer alignment which reduces the length of the journey. With a safer horizontal alignment, the speed limit is increased to 100 km/h. The realignment of the old road reduces the journey length for road users. This will stimulate additional demand for the road. Project case road details are shown in Figure 169.
5.10.4 Road traffic data

The ‘road traffic data’ screen is used to specify existing traffic demand, therefore the base and project cases traffic data remain the same. The additional trips made when the project is complete will be entered in the ‘generated traffic’ node. Existing traffic demand is shown in Figure 170.

Figure 170: Existing traffic demand
5.10.5 Capital and maintenance costs

Base case routine maintenance costs are $50,000 per year. Routine maintenance in the project case is estimated at only $40,000 per year. This is due to the shorter road length. The estimated capital cost for the project is $120 million with periodic maintenance of $400,000 for Years 7, 14, and 28. Periodic maintenance will reduce roughness by 5 NRM. Rehabilitation of the new road will occur in Year 21 costing $5 million. This will reduce roughness to a level of 70 NRM. Figure 171 shows the project case costs. Base case costs can be found in Appendix A.

![Figure 171: New road costs](image)

5.10.6 Accident and other costs

Accident costs will be automatically calculated by CBA6. These costs should reduce in the project case given the reduction in the distance road users have to travel, and the improvement in the model road state.

5.10.7 Generated traffic

It is anticipated that the new road will generate an additional 150 trips by private commuters. Demand is expected to increase each year at 6% from Year 2 (first year of operation). Figure 172 shows the generated traffic demand for the new road. In this example, compound growth has been used to simulate the increasing growth each year. The decrease in travel time to the coastal town is the main reason for increased demand for the road.

![Figure 172: Generated traffic](image)
5.10.8 Results and decision criteria

The new road provides significant TTC savings and VOC savings to existing traffic. Road users who had previously used the old road in the base case, now receive TTC savings of $46 million at the 6% discount rate. The project BCR is 1.13 and the NPV is positive at $13.9 million, see Figure 173.

The additional benefit which is attributed to those generated trips using the new road is $5.3 million. By improving access to the coastal community and thereby lowering road user costs, the project generated an additional 4% worth of economic benefits (generated benefits as a proportion of total benefits).

Figure 173: Generated traffic results

The generated traffic module has an additional result screen called ‘generated traffic benefits’, see Figure 174. System users can view this screen to see the yearly flow of generated traffic benefits. In this case study it can be seen that private vehicle generated traffic benefits accrue from Year 2.

Figure 174: Generated traffic benefits
5.11 Changes in multi-combination vehicle access

Multi-combination vehicles (MCVs) are an increasingly important component of the road transport industry. An MCV is a large vehicle with at least two articulations. Examples include B-doubles and road trains, as well as many new innovative configurations such as B-triples and AAB-quads. For the road transport industry, MCVs can make an important contribution to improving overall industry efficiency.

CBA6 can be used to estimate the economic efficiency gains that arise as more of the network becomes accessible to multi-combination vehicles, including initiatives according to TMR’s higher mass limits policy.

This case study explains how to use CBA6 for that purpose. It is important to note that simply redistributing the heavy vehicle composition between vehicle types while retaining the same total heavy vehicle proportion is not a reliable method of estimating the benefits of improved MCV access. The traffic composition data must first be manipulated outside the model.

This case study shows how to manipulate the traffic composition data and then analyse the benefits of improved freight efficiency using CBA6. For more information on freight efficiency, see Section 5.3 of the Theoretical Guide.

5.11.1 MCV case study

This case study involves upgrading an existing road to allow access by larger freight vehicles such as road trains. An improved width is required to allow type 2 road trains to operate on this road. In this case study, it is proposed that a section of road is widened to increase road train access from type 1 to type 2.

Table 7 shows the MCV semi-trailer equivalents.

Table 7: Semi trailer equivalents

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>MCV</th>
<th>Semi – trailer equivalent</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>B-doubles</td>
<td>1.55 times the payload of a semi-trailer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Type 1 road train</td>
<td>2 times the payload of a semi-trailer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Type 2 road train</td>
<td>3 times the payload of a semi-trailer</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: TMR (2009).

Table 8 shows how traffic composition will change when the road is opened to type 2 road train access.
Table 8: Change in access

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Vehicle type</th>
<th>Base case</th>
<th>Project case</th>
<th>Project case</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>AADT</td>
<td>% of total AADT</td>
<td>Semi trailer equivalents</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Private cars</td>
<td>252</td>
<td>48.90%</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Commercial cars</td>
<td>108</td>
<td>21.00%</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Non-Articulated</td>
<td>31</td>
<td>6.00%</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Buses</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>1.00%</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Articulated</td>
<td>52</td>
<td>10.10%</td>
<td>52</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B-doubles</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>1.00%</td>
<td>7.739726</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Road trains type 1</td>
<td>62</td>
<td>12.00%</td>
<td>124</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Road trains type 2</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0.00%</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>515</td>
<td>100.00%</td>
<td>183.73973</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Note: AADT values are rounded to whole numbers.

In the base case, the road allows for type 1 road trains. Semi-trailer equivalents are used as a proxy for the heavier vehicle types. This results in the calculated load being 183.74 semi-trailers. The values from which the semi-trailer equivalents are calculated are shown in Table 7. As an example, there are 5 B-doubles in the base case. Because a B-double carries 1.55 times the load (in tonnes) of a semi-trailer, the semi-trailer equivalents value is calculated using the formula:

5 B-doubles x 1.55 = 7.75 semi-trailer equivalents

In the project case, the total semi-trailer equivalents of the base case (183.74) has to be shared between the four vehicle types. The first assumption relates to the proportion of the freight task that will be undertaken by each vehicle type. In this example, semi-trailers are assumed to account for 15% of all freight carried by heavy vehicles in the project case.

The formula for estimating the semi-trailer equivalents to be carried by semi-trailers is:

0.15 x 183.74 = 27.56

For B-doubles the calculation in this example is:

0.05 x 183.74 = 9.19

The same calculations are made for type 1 and type 2 road trains, which in this example are each assumed to carry 40% of all heavy freight on the road. At the completion of these calculations, the total semi-trailer equivalents must be the same in the base and project cases (183.74).

Next, convert the semi-trailer equivalents into the actual vehicle composition in the project case. For semi-trailers, the number of vehicles equals the number of semi-trailer equivalents (that is, the conversion factor is one).

To estimate the number of:

- B-doubles, divide semi-trailer equivalents by 1.55
- type 1 road trains, divide semi-trailer equivalents by 2
- type 2 road trains, divide semi-trailer equivalents by 3.
Having completed this conversion, calculate the total project case AADT (494 vehicles in the example), and use this to calculate traffic composition as a percentage of total AADT.

The percentages of total AADT for each vehicle type for base and project cases are entered into the ‘road traffic data’ screen in CBA6. The effect of the increase in road train status is to reduce AADT from the base case to the project case, thereby increasing the benefits.

5.11.2 Create new evaluation

The ‘create new evaluation’ screen for this case study is shown in Figure 175. No advanced modules need to be selected to create a multi-combination vehicle access evaluation.

*Figure 175: Change in MCV evaluation*
5.11.3 Road details

The road details for the current road are shown in Figure 176. The base case is a narrow 5.9 m sealed road that does not allow access for type 2 road trains.

*Figure 176: Case road details with road train access*

The new road will provide a wider 9.1 m seal to allow safe access for type 2 road trains. The road details of the project case are shown in Figure 177.

*Note: The Route Assessment Guidelines for Multi-combination Vehicles in Queensland (DMR 2007) states that for vehicles such as type 2 road trains, the desired seal width should be a minimum of 7 to 9 metres depending on traffic volumes.*

*Figure 177: Road details with road train access*
5.11.4 Road traffic data

Table 8 provides the traffic composition assumptions for the base and project cases due to the change in vehicle access. The corresponding data for the base case is shown in Figure 178.

Figure 178: Case case traffic without road train type 2

The project case traffic data is shown in Figure 179. Total AADT is lower than in the base case because fewer vehicles are required to undertake the same freight task. A warning message will appear to highlight the differing base and project cases traffic data. As the difference is a consequence of the changed traffic mix, click the 'ok' button.

Figure 179: Project case with road train type 2 access
5.11.5 Capital and maintenance costs

Routine maintenance costs in the base case are $5000 per year. Routine maintenance in the project case will increase because of the wider road. The estimated capital cost for the project is $1 million with periodic maintenance of $110,000 for Years 7, 14, and 28. Each periodic maintenance event will reduce roughness by 5 NRM. There will be rehabilitation in Year 21, which will reduce roughness back to 60 NRM. Figure 180 shows the project case costs.

Figure 180: Road train access costs

5.11.6 Accident and other costs

Accident costs will be automatically calculated by CBA6. With a wider seal and less traffic, the project case should provide additional accident savings. Similarly, the change in vehicle fleet configuration should result in reductions in vehicle emissions and air pollution, although these changes may be small.

5.11.7 Results and decision criteria

The results of the project are shown in Figure 181. At the 6% discount rate, the project BCR is 1.12 and the NPV is $100,102. The results indicate that the project is economically viable, which is encouraging considering the low traffic volumes on this road. With the change to more efficient vehicles, freight operators will save both time costs and vehicle running costs. The new road also provides an additional safety benefit.

Figure 181: Road train type 2 access results

Note: Benefits accrued from this project are from a combination of improved road surface and the change in vehicle fleet. The improved road surface now allows type 2 road trains to use this road. Freight operators will experience both savings in TTC and VOC.
5.12 Multiple project cases

The ‘multiple project cases’ module in CBA6 is used to compare mutually exclusive project options in order to identify the best option. Options analysis can be defined as a process that identifies alternative solutions that promote or address the same problem. CBA6 is useful in this context where there are alternative treatments that may suitably address a defined transport need. CBA6 compares the incremental benefits and costs of different project options and provides a recommendation on the economically preferred option.

The CBA6 ‘multiple project cases’ module is limited in the scope of project options that can be assessed. For example if there are two project options which require use of other advanced modules in CBA6, these projects will need to be created separately and then linked using the ‘incremental analysis’ module. Section 5.12 provides an incremental analysis case study using advanced modules in CBA6.

5.12.1 Multiple project case study

This case study involves the evaluation of a rural highway with AADT of 10 000 vehicles per day. The current road is a narrow seal of 5.8 metres and does not adequately cater for current traffic volumes. TMR proposes three options that will provide a better standard highway for road users. Only one of the three options can be implemented.

The base case and project options are:

- **Base case**: a do-minimum strategy has been assumed for the base case. Annual routine maintenance and periodic maintenance in Years 14, 21 and 28 are assumed to occur, while the design of the road will remain constant throughout the evaluation period.

- **Option 1**: widen the road to 7.6 m over two years. Capital costs at $5 million. Project opening in Year 3 will delay rehabilitation until Year 23. Provide periodic maintenance in Years 9, 16 and 30.

- **Option 2**: widen the road to 11.6 m over two years. Capital costs at $10 million. Project opening in Year 3 will delay rehabilitation until Year 23. Provide periodic maintenance in Years 9, 16 and 30.

- **Option 3**: build new four-lane highway (undivided) over two years. Capital costs at $18 million. Project opening in Year 3 will delay rehabilitation until Year 23. Provide periodic maintenance in Years 9, 16 and 30.
5.12.2 Create new evaluation

To create an options analysis in CBA6 the ‘multiple project cases’ module must be selected from the ‘create new evaluation’ screen. The system user is required to enter in the number of mutually exclusive project options to be evaluated. In this case study there are three project options, see Figure 182.

Figure 182: Multiple project cases evaluation

The node tree for this case study is shown in Figure 183. There are three project options that will be assessed against the same base case.

Figure 183: Multiple project workspace
5.12.3 Road details

The ‘road details’ screen for the base case is shown in Figure 184. The current road is a narrow two-lane highway.

Figure 184: Base case option

The first project option will widen the road from 5.8 metres to 7.6 metres. The new road will be built to a 60 NRM standard. Road details for option 1 are shown in Figure 185.

Figure 185: Project case option 1
The second proposed upgrade to the road involves a significant widening of the base case. Project option 2 involves widening the base case from 5.8 to 11.6 metres, see Figure 186.

*Figure 186: Project case option 2*

The final project option involves building a new four-lane highway. Project option 3 also involves increasing the speed limit on the road from 80 km/h to 100 km/h. Details for option 3 are shown in Figure 187.

*Figure 187: Project case option 3*
5.12.4 Road traffic data

Traffic on the current road is 10,000 vehicles per day, with an assumed 3% linear annual growth. Traffic data is shown in Figure 188. The traffic assumptions for the project options will remain the same as the base case.

Figure 188: Road traffic data multiple base case

5.12.5 Capital and maintenance

Maintenance costs for the base case are shown in Figure 189. Rehabilitation will take place in Year 7 and will reduce roughness of the road to 80 NRM.

Figure 189: Base case costs

Project option 1 has total capital costs of $5 million. Figure 190 shows the capital and maintenance costs for option 1.
Project option 2 involves widening the current road to 11.6 metres. This is expected to cost $4 million in Year 1 with an additional $6 million in Year 2. These costs are shown in Figure 191.

The highest cost project option is the new four-lane highway. This option will cost $18 million and take two years to construct. Figure 192 shows the capital and maintenance costs for option 3.
5.12.6 Accident and other costs

Accident costs are automatically calculated by CBA6. Project options 2 and 3 will provide the highest accident cost savings due to wider seal widths.

5.12.7 Results and decision criteria

The 'results' tab from the node tree provides a breakdown of costs for each option and the results of the incremental analysis, see Figure 193.

The ‘incremental analysis’ tab shows the final results of the comparison between each project option. The individual results for each project option are shown in project road case 1, project road case 2, and project road case 3 columns respectively. CBA6 automatically arranges project options on a capital costs basis, hence column 1 contains the project option with the lowest capital costs and column 5 contains the project option with the highest capital costs. All results are shown at the discount rate specified in the ‘create new evaluation’ screen. A discount rate of 6% is used for this example.

In the second column (incremental from project road case 1 to project road case 2), CBA6 calculates the incremental benefit and cost results. This column shows that option 2 costs $4.6 million more than option 1. On the other hand option 2 has an additional $12.9m in benefits. The IBCR for option 1 to option 2 is 2.78, therefore option 2 is preferred over option 1.

In the fourth column (incremental from project road case 2 to project road case 3), CBA6 calculates the incremental benefit and cost for option 2 and option 3. This result shows that option 3 costs $8.4 million more than option 2 but only provides $3.15 million more benefits. The IBCR is 0.37, therefore option 2 is preferred over option 3. In cases where the IBCR does not suitably identify a preferred option, the NPV can be used to select the preferred option.

The results of this incremental analysis show option 2 to be the preferred choice to upgrade the current highway.

*Figure 193: Multiple project case results*

Note: Section 9.5 of the *Technical Guide* provides background information on calculation of the IBCR.
5.13 Incremental analysis

The ‘evaluation linking’ incremental analysis function in CBA6 is usually engaged to evaluate and compare project options which require the use of the advanced module in CBA6. This function is only available for system users who are evaluating options comprising one of the six project types listed in Figure 194. For example, a comparison between different types of overtaking lanes (e.g. head-to-head in comparison to side-by-side) cannot be evaluated using the ‘multiple project case’ option.

Figure 194: CBA6 advanced modules

This case study will use the bypass project presented in Section 5.7. This case study involves a proposal to build a new two-lane highway to bypass a local town. As an alternative, it is proposed that a four-lane undivided highway be constructed to allow for additional capacity.

5.13.1 Incremental case study

A new evaluation will be created in CBA6 and then compared with the original bypass case study (original proposal) in Section 5.7. A four-lane undivided highway (alternative option) has also been proposed as a comparison. This alternative option allows for an increased road capacity but has higher capital costs than the original proposal.

Note: The new base case to be created in CBA6 must remain consistent with the original proposal. The only changes will be the project case MRS, pavement type, surface type and capital cost. The changes need to be entered into CBA6 through the ‘road details’ and the ‘capital and maintenance costs’ functions. The alternative option can be created in CBA6 using the original proposal as a basis, see Section 3.1.8.1.
5.13.2 Create new evaluation

The alternative option is based on the original proposal in Section 5.7, therefore the system user should select the 'based on existing evaluation' option, see Figure 195.

*Figure 195: Town bypass option 2*

5.13.3 Road details

The alternative option will have an MRS of 17. The pavement type and surface type are changed to rigid and asphaltic concrete respectively. Figure 196 shows the road details for all options.

*Figure 196: Undivided bypass option*
5.13.4 Capital and maintenance costs

The only other change needed within CBA6 relates to the capital costs. The capital costs for the alternative proposal are $80 million, see Figure 197.

*Figure 197: Undivided bypass option costs*

![Figure 197: Undivided bypass option costs](image)

Note: When the costs of both options are compared, all maintenance costs have remained the same.

5.13.5 Results and decision criteria

The results of the alternative option are shown in Figure 198. At the 6% discount rate, the project BCR is 1.06 and the NPV is $4.13 million. These results indicate the alternative option is economically justified. To determine which of the project options is preferred, the system user should compare the evaluation results.

*Figure 198: Undivided bypass option results*
5.13.6 Linking

The original proposal and the alternative option are compared using the ‘evaluation linking’ option, see Figure 199.

Figure 199: Evaluation linking

The ‘incremental analysis’ tab presents the comparison of the evaluation results for both project options, see Figure 200.

Figure 200: Incremental analysis
The results of the incremental analysis are presented in Figure 201. The second column (incremental from town bypass to town bypass 2) presents the incremental analysis of the original proposal and the alternative option. The results suggest that the alternative option will cost an additional $17.8 million more than the original proposal. The original proposal has an estimated $2.76 million more benefits than the alternative option. The IBCR of -0.16 suggests that the lower cost original proposal is the preferred option.

*Figure 201: Incremental analysis results for town bypass options*
5.14 Linking projects

The ‘linking projects’ function in CBA6 is used to combine the results of mutually dependent projects. For example, two single projects may not achieve sufficient benefits as standalone projects to warrant construction. However, sufficient benefits may be obtained when the results of these projects are combined. A practical example could include combining a bridge upgrade with an approach, combining an intersection with a road upgrade, or combining a sequence of programmed works.

5.14.1 Linking projects case study

This case study will describe the process of using CBA6 to combine the results of an intersection project and an arterial road upgrade.

There are two proposed upgrades:

- Intersection upgrade – from case study in Section 5.5, a stop sign intersection is upgraded to signalised operations.

- Upgrade the approaches to the intersection – the main arterial road will be upgraded to coincide with the upgrade to the intersection.

The approach to this intersection is quite narrow and could become congested with the onset of additional traffic, as the intersection acts as a direct feeder of traffic onto the road. Upgrading the intersection as a standalone project may result in severe congestion issues for motorists using the arterial road. These design features suggest that these two projects have a high degree of mutual dependency and overall transport objectives may only be met if both projects are initiated.

This case study will work through and describe the steps required to link the results of both projects. As the intersection project has already been completed in CBA6, the only new evaluation that needs to be created is the arterial road upgrade.

5.14.2 Create new evaluation

The ‘create new evaluation’ screen for the arterial road upgrade is shown in Figure 202. System users should ensure that the results of all linked projects are evaluated and discounted using the same discount rate. The arterial road upgrade uses an evaluation period of 11 years which is the evaluation period used for the intersection upgrade. The evaluation period for road projects is usually set at around 30 years. A residual value will be calculated for the road upgrade in this case study.
The details for the arterial road upgrade are entered into CBA6 as per the previous case studies and via the instruction shown in Section 3. All project input data is shown in Appendix A.

*Figure 202: Arterial road evaluation*
5.14.3 Results and decision criteria

After the input data has been entered and saved, the evaluation results can be calculated for the arterial road upgrade. As shown in Figure 203, the BCR for the arterial road upgrade is 0.66. As a standalone evaluation, it is doubtful that this project is economically viable.

To investigate the viability of combining the evaluation results of the two projects, it is necessary to link the results of both the arterial road upgrade and intersection upgrade.

*Figure 203: Arterial road results*

5.14.4 Linking analysis

When the evaluation results of both projects have been completed and saved, the results are linked using the 'evaluations' menu. After the evaluation files have been successfully linked, a new node tree appears under the 'evaluation linking' tab. To run the combined analysis of the arterial road and intersection upgrades, the system user selects the 'linking analysis' tab, see Figure 204.
From the ‘linking analysis’ tab, CBA6 combines the results of both the intersection and arterial road evaluation files, see Figure 205.

The combined BCR for both projects is 2.82 with an NPV of $5.56 million, using the 6% discount rate. This suggests that upgrading the arterial road and the intersection as a joint initiative will significantly lower TTC and VOC, and reduce accidents.

This demonstration highlights that although the intersection project is viable as a standalone project (BCR = 5.06), the construction of the arterial road upgrade is not (BCR = 0.66). If the evaluation results of these projects are assessed individually, the intersection upgrade would be economically viable, but the proposal to upgrade the arterial road upgrade would fail. CBA6 can be used to link the evaluation results of two mutually dependent projects. The arterial road project may not be viable unless the evaluation results of both projects are assessed as a joint initiative.
6 Support

With the creation of the project evaluation team, TMR has established a well resourced group. It comprises a team of full-time economists and advisors with specialised skills for supporting all aspects of road project evaluations and for technical support of the CBA6 tool.

The team provides comprehensive training and support in road project appraisal to all system users, as well as fixing any issues with the CBA tool. New functionalities, program fixes and enhancements are delivered annually or as required in a CBA release.
6.1 Training

Training in the CBA6 tool is provided by the team to all department regions upon request, either in the region or in Brisbane. The training covers topics such as state and federal project appraisal processes, as well as comprehensive training in the use of the CBA6 tool. Training request forms can be obtained from the project evaluation team.
6.2 Intranet site

A well resourced intranet site at http://rams/cba has up-to-date information including scheduled training events, upcoming new releases of the tool, research papers, CBA newsletters and components such as updates to pricing.

The intranet site also provides sample evaluation files and examples of project evaluation work undertaken by the project evaluation team.
6.3 Contact

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7 Future software development

The CBA tool, as with any software, will need to adapt to changes in business rules and the system environment (Microsoft Windows), in order to stay current. CBA6 is developed with a programming language version which is outdated. The Microsoft database management system used by CBA6 is also outdated.

Another TMR software tool, SCENARIO, depends on the same database management system. At some stage during 2011-2014, CBA6 will need to migrate to a newer version of database (sql express), together with SCENARIO, an example of internal changes that will be required in a changing Microsoft Windows environment.

Functionally, developments are also likely to arise from federal and state issues. The project evaluation team monitors such developments and related research. The team has an ongoing liaison role in discussing these developments with counterparts in other states.

CBA6 has been extensively tested, but some very specific user scenarios could still highlight errors or opportunity for improvements. There are also known limitations of the tool which are under consideration to be addressed.
7.1 CBA6 Evaluation framework

The design of CBA6 allows for the evaluation of road projects located on isolated or discreet sections of the network. As such, the tool does not cater for the evaluation of those projects with network effects. In addition, the CBA6 tool is not suitable for evaluation of projects located on roads/links suffering from congestion, or stop/start traffic conditions.
7.2 Future CBA6 releases

Future releases are likely to have to address:

- many of the CBA6 limitations
- enhancements and errors reported by users, such as better support for externalities, wider economic benefits and traffic network effects
- changes required by changing business requirements and standardisations, state and federal
- internal system performance and windows standards.

The CBA Team regularly investigates methods for improving and updating the CBA6 tool. An example is trying to find a suitable method that will allow for hourly capacity flows so the tool can cater for the effects of a stop-start traffic environment.

The CBA Team communicates directly with system users for feedback, and to improve the functionality and useability of the CBA6 system. Enhancement suggestions, as well as any errors reported by users, will be incorporated in future CBA maintenance releases.

Some enhancements have already been identified (October 2009), such as improving how we specify vertical alignment and use this to calculate tyre wear. There are also parts of the CBA6 reporting that can be improved; these changes and other similar changes are logged in the tracker program change requests system which is the major single source register of future software releases.

Depending on departmental priorities, the tool would benefit from some major updates. Performance can be vastly improved through some re-factoring of the program code. CBA6 could be made into a web service, so that it can be installed and run from the intranet. Currently, having CBA6 distributed, licensed, installed and supported on individual user workstations throughout the network is very costly.

Requests for change to be included in future releases will be driven and documented through our program change request procedures.