

Department of Transport and Main Roads
Noting Brief
MBN23687

To: Minister for Transport and Main Roads

<p>SUBJECT: Mobile phone and seatbelt detection camera trial</p>	<p>Urgent Noting is required by 20 July 2020 as a media event is planned for 26 July 2020</p>
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Summary

- The trial of camera technology to detect mobile phone and seatbelt offences was approved to commence on 24 June 2020 (MBN23623 – **Attachment 1**).
- One of the two vendors selected for the trial, SenSen, is based in Victoria and has been impacted by the recent novel coronavirus (COVID-19) travel restrictions.
- SenSen has informed the Department of Transport and Main Roads (TMR) that they are unable to commence their trial on 27 July 2020 due to the current restrictions in place.
- SenSen will trial their technology as soon as it can be done safely and in line with any Queensland Health and Victorian directives on COVID-19.
- As SenSen will not commence the trial at the same time as Acusensus, the length of the trial will be extended beyond the original three-month period, affording each vendor a comparable timeframe.
- That you note this brief by 20 July 2020, before the proposed media event on 26 July 2020.

Background

- A trial of camera technology to detect mobile phone and seatbelt offences was originally proposed to commence on 5 April 2020 with two interstate vendors.
- These two vendors each committed to providing a fixed and mobile camera solution for the trial. The mobile solution will be trialled in both urban and regional locations.
- The onset of COVID-19 posed significant challenges to continuing the trial, due to stringent travel restrictions and border crossing controls, which were put in place to prevent the spread of the virus. As such, a decision was made to postpone the trial until the response to COVID-19 allowed for a relaxation of travel restrictions, which would allow the interstate vendors to travel to Queensland.

Issues and Suggested Approach

- A recent surge in COVID-19 cases has forced a six-week lockdown in Victoria, which has impacted Victorian-based vendor SenSen.

<p>Action Officer: Peter Kolesnik Director (Road Safety Programs)</p>	<p>Endorsed by: Ann-Maree Knox Executive Director (Safer Roads Infrastructure)</p>	<p>Endorsed by: Dennis Walsh Chief Engineer (Engineering and Technology)</p>	<p>Endorsed by: DDG Amanda Yeates Deputy Director-General (Infrastructure Management and Delivery)</p>	<p>Endorsed by: DG Neil Scales Director-General</p>
<p>Tel: 3066 3741 Date: 08 July 2020</p>	<p>Tel: 3066 2301 Date: 9 July 2020</p>	<p>Tel: 3066 3017 Date: 10 July 2020</p>	<p>Tel: 3066 7118 Date: Bypassed</p>	<p>Tel: 3066 7316 Date:</p>

- The second vendor, Acusensus, has advised TMR that they are able to commence the trial with staff based in New South Wales.
- Acusensus has confirmed that their mobile solution is ready to transport to Queensland and able to commence on 27 July 2020, after the planned media event on 26 July 2020.
- Border restrictions with Victoria will be monitored, and SenSen will commence trialling their technology as soon as it can safely do so. SenSen has agreed to this approach, noting that both vendors will commence the trial on separate dates.
- Starting the trial with one vendor will provide TMR with valuable information at an earlier date that will assist with future planning, including the number of people using phones and not wearing seatbelts. Additionally, information will be available sooner to help integrate vendor data into both TMR and the Queensland Police Service systems.
- Acusensus will work with TMR to install their fixed solution as soon as all the necessary structural approvals can be obtained to install their device on the gantry.
- Locations for the trial sites include:

Part Exempt Sch.3(10)(1)(f) Prejudice the effectiveness of a lawful method

Financial Implications

- An initial \$200,000 was allocated for the trial (\$100,000 for each vendor). Additional funds were made available to allow for relocation of the mobile solution from the initial trial site to a regional trial site.
- Both vendors received payments in April 2020, for the work already completed as part of stage one of the contracts.
- Future financial implications will depend on the outcome of the trial.

Consideration of the *Human Rights Act 2019* (HR Act)

- The HR Act was considered when undertaking the recommendations outlined in this brief and there are no identified impacts to human rights.

Consultation with Stakeholders

- Discussions have been held with both vendors about the recommencement of the trial.

Employment

- There are no employment impacts associated with this matter.

Media

- The trial of this new technology has recently been in the media.
- An opportunity exists to mark the recommencement of the trial with a media launch event on 26 July 2020. In preparation, TMR has identified Riawena Road, Salisbury as the location for the event to take place.
- The event would rely on a static display of a trailer-based camera with moving traffic in the background.

Department of Transport and Main Roads
Decision Brief
MBN23623

To: Minister for Transport and Main Roads

<p>SUBJECT: Recommencement of mobile phone and seatbelt camera trial</p>	<p>URGENT Approval required by 26 June 2020 to provide sufficient notice to vendors about recommencement of trial</p>
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Summary

- It is proposed to recommence the trial of camera technology to detect mobile phone and seatbelt offences from 27 July 2020.
- A media launch opportunity exists to mark the recommencement of the trial.

Recommendations

- That you approve the recommencement of the camera trial from 27 July 2020.
- That you advise of your preferred location for the media launch event (Riawena Road, Salisbury is recommended, as the site is protected by guard rail and well suited for a media event).

Financial Implications

- Contract suspension notices were issued to each vendor on 3 April 2020 to prevent any ongoing costs to the Department of Transport and Main Roads (TMR).
- Both vendors received payments in April 2020 for the work already completed as part of stage one of the contracts.
- Future financial implications will depend on the results of the trial.

Background

- A trial of camera technology to detect mobile phone and seatbelt offences was originally proposed to commence on 5 April 2020 with two interstate vendors.
- The TMR signed contracts are with two vendors who have each committed to providing a fixed and mobile camera solution for the trial. The mobile solution will be trialled in both urban and regional locations.
- The onset of novel coronavirus (COVID-19) posed significant challenges to continuing the trial due to stringent travel restrictions and border crossing controls, which were put in place to prevent the spread of the virus. As such, a decision was made to postpone the trial until the response to COVID-19 allowed for a relaxation of travel restrictions which would allow the interstate vendors to travel to Queensland, noting these vendors also had workplace health and safety obligations to manage.
- You were most recently briefed on the postponement of the trial in MBN23382 (**Attachment 1**).

<p>Action Officer: Peter Kolesnik Director (Road Safety Programs) Tel: 3066 3741 Date: 17 June 2020</p>	<p>Endorsed by: Ann-Maree Knox Executive Director (Safer Roads Infrastructure) Tel: 3066 2301 Date: 18 June 2020</p>	<p>Endorsed by: Dennis Walsh Chief Engineer (Engineering and Technology) Tel: 3066 3017 Date: 18 June 2020</p>	<p>Endorsed by: DDG Amanda Yeates Deputy Director-General (Infrastructure Management and Delivery) Tel: 3066 7118 Date: 19 June 2020</p>	<p>Endorsed by: DG Neil Scales Director-General Tel: 3066 7316 Date: 19 June 2020</p>
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Key Issues

- It is proposed to recommence the camera trial from 27 July 2020, on the basis that the Queensland borders may be open at that time.
- If the opening of the Queensland borders is further delayed, TMR will seek to assist the vendors to travel to Queensland, in accordance with Queensland Health COVID-19 travel and border control guidance.
- Locations for the trial sites include:

Part Exempt Sch.3(10)(1)(f) Prejudice the effectiveness of a lawful method

Financial Implications

- An initial \$200,000 was allocated for the trial (\$100,000 for each vendor). Additional funds were made available to allow for relocation of the mobile solution from the initial trial site to a regional trial site.
- Both vendors received payments in April 2020 for the work already completed as part of stage one of the contracts.
- Future financial implications will depend on the outcome of the trial.

Consideration of the *Human Rights Act 2019* (HR Act)

- The HR Act was considered when making the recommendations outlined in this brief and there are no identified impacts to human rights.

Consultation with Stakeholders

- Both vendors have been advised of the possible trial recommencement date of 27 July 2020.
- Queensland Police Service—as the partner agency conducting the trial—is supportive of recommencing the trial from 27 July 2020.

Employment

- There are no employment impacts associated with this matter.

Media

- The trial of this new technology has recently been in the media.
- A planned media launch event was scheduled for 5 April 2020, however this was cancelled due to the suspension of the trial.
- An opportunity exists to mark the recommencement of the trial with a media launch event. In preparation, TMR has identified the following sites where an event may take place:
 - Riawena Road, Salisbury (recommended)
 - Birkdale Road, Wellington Point
 - Parliament House, Brisbane City.
- The event would rely on a static display of a trailer-based camera with moving traffic in the background.
- Further details regarding the launch event will be finalised pending availability of the vendor's equipment.

Election Commitments

- This matter does not relate to an election commitment.

Government Priorities

- The camera trial aligns with the Queensland Government's priorities to keep communities safe and keep Queenslanders healthy.

Summary of Actions

- That you approve the recommencement of the camera trial from 27 July 2020.
- That you advise of your preferred location for the media launch event (Riawena Road, Salisbury is recommended, as the site is protected by guard rail and well suited for a media event).

Minister's comments:

Approved

Not relevant

Minister's signature.....

Date ...24/06/2020.

Department of Transport and Main Roads
Decision Brief
MBN23382

To: Minister for Transport and Main Roads

<p>SUBJECT:</p> <p>Mobile phone and seatbelt camera trial to be postponed due to COVID-19</p>	<p>Urgent</p> <p>TMR must issue a suspension notice to vendors to limit potential financial risks to all parties</p>
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Summary

- It is proposed to postpone the trial of camera technology to detect mobile phone and seatbelt offences.
- The spread of novel coronavirus (COVID-19) presents a number of risks and challenges to this initiative continuing at this time.

Recommendations

- That you approve the postponement of the trial until further notice.

Financial Implications

- A contract suspension notice will need to be issued to each vendor to prevent any ongoing costs to the department.
- Vendors will also be paid for the work already completed as part of stage one of the contract.
- As both vendors have completed stage one of the contract conditions, payments of \$20,000 to each vendor will need to be processed in the coming weeks.

Background

- A trial of camera technology to detect mobile phone and seatbelt offences was originally proposed to commence in April 2020 with two interstate vendors. You were most recently briefed on this initiative in MBN23279.
- The Department of Transport and Main Roads (TMR) has signed contracts with these vendors who have each committed to provide a fixed camera and a mobile camera solution. The mobile cameras were due to be trialled in both urban and regional locations.

Key Issues

- It is proposed to postpone the upcoming camera trial until the response to COVID-19 allows for a relaxation in travel restrictions and social distancing measures.
- However, TMR will continue to monitor the situation to determine the earliest available opportunity to re-commence the trial.

<p>Action Officer: Stuart Maxwell Principal Policy Advisor (Safer Road Users) Tel: 3338 4350 Date: 25/03/2020</p>	<p>Approved by: Joanna Robinson Executive Director (PSR) Tel: 3066 2692 Date: 25/03/2020</p>	<p>Endorsed by: Andrew Mahon General Manager (Land Transport Safety and Regulation Branch) Tel: 3066 7512 Date: 25/03/2020</p>	<p>Endorsed by: DDG Mike Stapleton Customer Services, Safety and Regulation Tel: 3066 7222 Date: 25/03/2020</p>	<p>Endorsed by: DG Neil Scales Director-General Tel: 3066 7316 Date: 26/03/2020</p>
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- The threat of COVID-19 poses significant challenges to the trial continuing at this stage, including:
 - the vendors are based interstate and will not be able to enter Queensland once the borders close without needing to observe a 14-day quarantine period
 - the trial is not considered an essential service and there may be a negative public perception of the department commencing a trial during a period of economic hardship
 - continuing with the trial at this stage risks the health and wellbeing of vendors and staff from TMR and the Queensland Police Service (QPS) who may not be able to observe social distancing measures during the trial, particularly installation of cameras
 - a planned media announcement is unlikely to generate community attention given significant community concern in relation to COVID-19
 - the findings from the trial may also be impacted with a potential reduction in traffic volume resulting from measures limiting non-essential business and travel.
- The launch event was scheduled for 5 April 2020. In preparation, TMR has identified the following sites for this event if the event was to go ahead:
 - Riawena Road, Salisbury
 - Birkdale Road, Wellington Point
 - Parliament House, Brisbane City.
- The event would rely on a static display of a trailer-based camera with moving traffic in the background.

Financial Implications

- In order to prevent ongoing costs to the department, a contract suspension notice will need to be issued to each vendor.
- As both vendors have completed stage one of the contract conditions, payments of \$20,000 to each vendor will be processed in the coming weeks.

Consideration of the *Human Rights Act 2019* (HR Act)

- The HR Act was considered when making the recommendations outlined in this brief, and there are no identified impacts to human rights.

Consultation with Stakeholders

- TMR has informed the vendors of the likely postponement of the trial and will issue them a suspension notice pending your approval.
- QPS, as the partner agency conducting the trial, are supportive of suspending the trial.

Employment

- There are no employment impacts associated with this matter.

Media

- There are no media impacts associated with this matter.

Election Commitments

- This matter does not relate to an election commitment.

Government Priorities

- The camera trial aligns with the Queensland Government's priorities to keep communities safe and keep Queenslanders healthy.

Summary of Actions

- The you approve the postponement of the camera trial until further notice.

Minister's comments:

Approved

Not relevant

Minister's signature.....

Date 22/04/2020

Released under RTI - DTMR

Released under RTI - DTMR