

# Road Maintenance Council Contracts



NEWSLETTER NO. 6 (15 DECEMBER 2010)

## RMCC Steering Committee Meeting

### Background

The RMCC Steering Committee was formed to oversee the implementation and operation of the RMCC and to provide advice to the RTA.

Membership comprises representatives of the United Services Union (USU), the Local Government and Shires Association (LGSA), the Institute of Public Works Engineering and the RTA.

### Issues discussed at meeting held 30 November 2010

A wide range of issues were discussed, including:

- Impacts of change in weather patterns and the break of the drought is increasing pressure on routine costs under the Fixed Upper Limits.
- The increased focus on delivery of maintenance, with a Government expectation that maintenance efficiency savings announced in the 2008 Mini-budget will be delivered, and the current expenditure review of the RTA by NSW Treasury.
- The Road Maintenance Annual Plan (RMAP) process is generally working well, with councils getting behind it.
- Reporting and administrative requirements, with frequent changes to process and documentation which were recognised as having an impact on councils and RTA staff alike.
- The use of the REFLECT program by most councils has assisted processes and consistency.
- PEG's are picking up momentum after a slow start and are seen as a good opportunity.
- Difficulties have been reported by some councils in obtaining the most up to date forms.

- RTA is seen by councils as getting all the benefit of the reporting processes, with little or no return to councils.
- There are a number of issues relating to wet weather insurance and variations.
- Communication issues between RTA and councils are the root cause of most problems.
- Benchmarking data is now becoming available and will be released in the coming months.
- Staff resources available to RTA and councils.
- Rigidity of contract enforcement in some areas, with inconsistent approaches to issues within and across Regions.

### Outcomes

The following outcomes of the meeting were agreed:

1. To clarify and report through RTA and LG communication processes:
  - a. Outcomes of this meeting
  - b. Wet weather claims and insurance issues
  - c. Role and use of RMAP's
  - d. Use of benchmarking data.
2. To improve communications by way of
  - a. Newsletters
  - b. Website promotion.
3. The RTA will conduct a review of:
  - a. RMAP process
  - b. Administration and reporting requirements.
4. LGSA and IPWEA to each nominate a council representative to the Steering Committee.

< Approved >

John Statton  
General Manager, Infrastructure Asset Management