

Regional roads funding assistance to Local Government



The State Government, through Roads and Maritime Services, provides funding to Local Government to support maintenance and repairs on Regional Roads across NSW.

The Local Government Liaison Committee (LGLC) and the Regional Consultative Committee (RCC) were created to ensure ongoing management and communication around these programs.

Introduction

Under a long-standing arrangement with Local Government, the State Government provides funding to support maintenance and repairs on Regional Roads across NSW.

These funds can include:

- › The Regional Road Block Grant Program
- › REPAIR Program (REPAIR And Improvement of Regional Roads)
- › Natural disaster funding assistance

This series of fact sheets has been prepared to:

- › Communicate the funding arrangements agreed between the State Government and Local Government; and
- › Provide a summary of funds expended and works carried out by Local Government on Regional Roads in the previous financial year.

The fact sheets in this series include:

- › Regional Roads funding assistance to Local Government – general information
- › The Regional Road Block Grant Program
- › The REPAIR And Improvement of Regional Roads (REPAIR) Program
- › Other funding sources

What are Regional Roads?

To manage the extensive network of roads for which council is responsible under the Roads Act 1993, Roads and Maritime and Local Government have developed an administrative agreement. This agreement categorises roads into administrative classes of State, Regional and Local Roads.

Under the agreement, Roads and Maritime manages State Roads, and local councils manage Regional and Local Roads.

Regional Roads support State Roads by connecting smaller towns to the NSW road network and with each other in rural areas.

In recognition of their role as routes of secondary importance, Regional Roads are eligible to receive financial assistance from the State Government.

Included as Regional Roads are roads classified under the Roads Act 1993 as 'Secondary Roads', and the less significant 'Main Roads', plus many roads not classified under the Roads Act.



What are the roles of Roads and Maritime and Council on Regional Roads?

Regional Roads are wholly owned by and are the responsibility of local council. It is the responsibility of councils to fund, determine priorities and carry out works on Regional Roads, and to capitalise them as council assets.

Roads and Maritime is responsible for distributing funding assistance through the agreed process with Local Government. The majority of funds are distributed in two ways:

- › The Regional Road Block Grant Program – provides Block Grant allocations to councils for use on Regional Roads.
- › The REPAIR Program – provides funding for specific works through a merit selection process. Roads and Maritime regional offices assist in this process, including prioritising work projects, through their role on the Regional Consultative Committee.

The Local Government Liaison Committee

The Local Government Liaison Committee (LGLC) was established to improve the partnership and communication between Roads and Maritime and Local Government regarding NSW roads and traffic management.

LGLC membership comprises The Executive from Roads and Maritime and other representatives, Transport for NSW (including the Centre for Road Safety) and Local Government NSW.

The Committee is chaired by the Roads and Maritime Chief Executive.

The Regional Consultative Committee

The Regional Consultative Committee (RCC) in each Roads and Maritime region is a partnership between local council and Roads and Maritime that facilitates communication regarding the management of roads and traffic systems.

The RCC facilitates cooperation and coordination between councils in their management of Regional Roads, introduces technical, administrative and structural change, and provides feedback on issues and performance in the region.

How does State Government funding support Regional Roads?

When the State Government and the former Local Government and Shires Association agreed to the introduction of the State and Regional Roads administrative classification system, a commitment was made to maintain, at a minimum, the level of funding assistance provided to councils to help them manage and maintain Regional Roads.

The commitment was to provide an identified funding pool to be distributed between two ongoing programs – the Regional Roads Block Grant Program and the REPAIR Program.

The State Government through Roads and Maritime also provides a range of other funding assistance programs to councils (see Other Funding Sources fact sheet for more information).

