

The REPAIR And Improvement of Regional Roads (REPAIR) Program



The REPAIR Program is a Roads and Maritime Services grant program providing funding to Local Government for the management and maintenance of Regional Roads.

What is the REPAIR Program?

The REPAIR Program provides funds to assist councils in carrying out larger rehabilitation and development works on Regional Roads.

The aim of the REPAIR Program is to minimise the long term maintenance costs of these roads in line with their function and usage.

How does the REPAIR Program work?

Under the REPAIR Program, councils can apply for a 50 per cent contribution from the State Government for specific works. Selection criteria are determined by the Regional Consultative Committee (RCC), which also prioritises projects.

The RCC at times establishes categories targeting specific strategies such as road rehabilitation, initial sealing and capacity enhancement development.

The RCC also agrees on specific limits of funds that any one council may receive each year.

The State Government determines the level of funding available under Roads and Maritime programs each year. The REPAIR funding for each region is allocated on the same funding split as the Regional Roads Block Grant Program.

The amount available for enhancement works is limited to 30 per cent of the annual REPAIR allocation for each Roads and Maritime region.

Councils may use any funds they deem appropriate to make up their 50 per cent contribution, excluding other REPAIR allocations. To maximise the funds being applied to Regional Roads, councils are encouraged to use funds from sources other than the Regional Roads Block Grant Program and other Roads and Maritime programs.

What works can REPAIR Program funding be used for?

The REPAIR Program targets the following types of work in order of priority:

Rural areas	Urban areas
1. Road pavement rehabilitation	1. Road pavement rehabilitation and travel lanes
2. Sealing shoulders / widening	2. Bridge repairs and replacement
3. Bridge repairs and replacement	3. Development of travel lanes
4. Provision of initial seals that contribute to minimising long-term maintenance costs	



Works must contribute to at least one of the following:

- › Economic development
- › Integrity of communities
- › Road network efficiency
- › Regional tourism
- › Road safety

Expenditure should be focused on travel lanes rather than parking lanes, kerbs and gutters. Allocations to road safety and traffic management works should be minimal given that other Roads and Maritime programs provide funding for these purposes.

How do councils apply for REPAIR funding?

An application form and supporting documents can be obtained from the relevant Roads and Maritime Regional Office. Applications are submitted to the Roads and Maritime Regional Manager. Each Roads and Maritime Regional Office sets a specific deadline for the submission of application forms.

Councils are encouraged to submit joint applications with other councils to receive REPAIR funding.

What happens if councils cannot pay their contribution to the REPAIR program?

Councils may apply to the RCC for a reduction in their contribution under special circumstances such as:

- › Limited benefits to local ratepayers
- › Significant State benefits
- › Size and scale of indivisible projects eg major bridge upgrades.

The Local Government Liaison Committee (LGLC), on the recommendation of the RCC, may approve a variation to the 50 per cent council contribution.

Any additional funds are allocated from the RCC's available budget, based on the strength of the application and the significance of the work.

What happens if the final cost is different to the proposed estimate?

Roads and Maritime funding is fixed at 50 per cent of the proposed estimate of works (or adjusted amount as approved by the LGLC).

If a project exceeds the estimated budget, council must fund the increase in costs. Funds cannot be used from other REPAIR grants.

If the final cost is less than the approved amount, Roads and Maritime's share will be available for reallocation through the RCC.

What is the deadline for completing works?

Works must be completed by 30 June in the financial year in which funds were provided. If a council cannot complete the works within this timeframe, the council must notify the RCC no later than 30 April that year.

The RCC then reallocates the funds to either:

- › Bring forward payment to other works that are in progress or completed by other councils; or
- › Bring forward other RCC scheduled works by other councils that have not yet started.

If a council fails to spend its approved allocation by 30 June and has not given prior notice to the RCC, council will forgo the outstanding funds for that project.

Roads and Maritime carries out a final inspection of the work to verify that the program objectives have been met. Roads and Maritime may also undertake an unscheduled audit at any time.

