

NATIONAL LOCAL ROADS & TRANSPORT CONGRESS

17-19 NOVEMBER 2015 • BALLARAT

CONNECTING COMMUNITIES ▶ DRIVING THE NATION

PROGRAM UPDATE

REGISTER ONLINE www.alga.asn.au

TUESDAY 17 NOVEMBER

5:00-7:00 pm Welcome Reception, Sovereign Hill Historic Park

WEDNESDAY 18 NOVEMBER

9:00 am	OPENING ADDRESS ALGA President, Mayor Troy Pickard
9:30 am	Deputy Prime Minister, the Hon Warren Truss MP (Invited)
10:00 am	KEYNOTE ADDRESS Progressing Productivity Reforms, Philip Davies, Chief Executive, the Productivity Commission
10:30 am	MORNING TEA
11:00 am	PANEL SESSION <i>Regional Council Groups</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Hume Region Local Government Network Riverina Eastern Regional Organisation of Councils Western Highway Action Committee
12:30 pm	LUNCH
1:30 pm	CONCURRENT SESSIONS <i>Regional Road Groups/Investment Strategies</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Russell Ingham, Principal Adviser, QLD Transport and Main Roads Ian Duncan, Executive Manager, Infrastructure, WALGA Mike Brady, General Manager, Infrastructure, Toowoomba Regional Council <i>Managing the Urban Freight Challenge</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Geoff Lawler, Director City Planning and Infrastructure, City of Melbourne Peter Todd, Chief Operating Officer, VicRoads Samantha Taylor, Principle Adviser & Team Leader, ARRB
3:00 pm	AFTERNOON TEA
3:30 pm	Reform Progress, Sal Petrocitto, Chief Executive Officer - National Heavy Vehicle Regulator
4:00 pm	Launch of State of the Assets Reports: Roads and Community Infrastructure Assets, Jeff Roorda - JRA and Associates
5:00 pm	DAY ONE CLOSE
6:30 pm	OFFICIAL DINNER Pre-dinner drinks: Jackson's & Co Dinner: Mining Exchange

THURSDAY 19 NOVEMBER

9:00 am	Shadow Minister for Infrastructure and Transport, the Hon Anthony Albanese MP (Invited)
9:30 am	John Woodrooffe, Professor, University of Michigan Transport Research Institute
10:00 am	<i>The Future of National Infrastructure Strategies</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Marcus James, General Manager, Surface Transport Productivity, Dept of Regional Development and Infrastructure (Invited) Paul Retter, Chief Executive, National Transport Commission
10:45 am	MORNING TEA
11:15 am	PANEL SESSION <i>Ongoing Policy Challenges</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> TBC Lt Col Sean Fleming, Deputy Director National Logistics, Defence's Land 121 Project Mary Lydon, Director, Centre for Automotive Safety Research, University of Adelaide
12:45 pm	LUNCH
1:45 pm	Reviewing the National Roads and Transport Strategy 2010-2020
2:30 pm	Election Advocacy Initiatives
3:15 pm	President's Closing Address
3:30 pm	CONGRESS CLOSE



Our ref: R90/0835-11 Out - 23899

13 August 2015

Cr Bernard Curtin OAM
Mayor
Berrigan Shire Council
PO Box 137
BERRIGAN NSW 2712

Dear Cr Curtin

BERRIGAN SHIRE COUNCIL	
18 AUG 2015	
FILE	
REFER TO	GM/MAYOR
COPY TO	FM
ACTION / CODE	
ACKNOWLEDGE Y / N	

Financial Assistance Grants to Local Government

As you would be aware, Local Government NSW is a member of the Australian Local Government Association (ALGA) and continues to work closely with the national body on the campaign to restore indexation to Financial Assistance Grants (FAGs). The campaign is now beginning to gain momentum on a few fronts – welcome news which aligns well with LGNSW's push to ensure Local Government reform includes solutions to systemic funding problems such as cost-shifting and flaws in the rating system.

Councils across Australia continue to pass resolutions acknowledging the importance of the FAGs in facilitating the delivery of essential services for their communities, with around 200 (35%) reporting that such a resolution has been passed. This is a good start, and LGNSW commends those NSW Councils who have passed the FAGs resolution – particularly in the intense period during which Council resources have been focused on preparing and lodging Fit for the Future submissions. With submissions now lodged and under review by IPART, LGNSW is urging Member Councils who have yet to pass a FAGs resolution to consider doing so.

A draft resolution is attached for this purpose, and your support would be welcomed by your fellow Councils. Once passed, it would be greatly appreciated if Councils could advise LGNSW, thereby allowing us to help ensure a strong combined NSW voice is included in this national campaign.

On the political front, the FAGs campaign saw the Federal Opposition in June draw a direct link between the freeze to FAGs indexation and its agreement with the Government to support the provision of a \$1.105 billion boost to Roads to Recovery funding. The increased funding will apply over the next two years, using revenue from the reintroduced fuel excise indexation.

In NSW, LGNSW's submission to the NSW Parliamentary Inquiry into Local Government included evidence of the impact the FAGs indexation freeze has had on our Councils, sparking significant interest from the Committee in the need to "fix the funding first".

These are major achievements showing the effective cut-through and influence of our actions and messages - but we can't stop there.

It is important that each council acknowledges the receipt of FAGs from the Commonwealth in their council documentation. The end of the 2014-15 financial year creates an excellent opportunity for your council to acknowledge FAGs in your annual report, demonstrating to both government and your community the significant role of FAGs in the long-term financial sustainability of your council and local government.

We're also seeking to continue the campaign's political momentum through advocacy at the highest levels of government. To this end we are asking you to write to the Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Infrastructure and Regional Development, the Hon Warren Truss MP, raising the issue of financial sustainability of Local Government, the importance of FAGs to your own council's budget and sustainability, and urging Minister Truss to support the restoration of the indexation of FAGs as soon as possible.

It would be hugely appreciated if you could copy in or otherwise advise LGNSW on any activities you undertake in support of the campaign, including writing to the Deputy Prime Minister, passing a resolution that acknowledges the importance of FAGs to crucial service delivery, and including an acknowledgment in your annual report. This allows the Association to report campaign activity by NSW councils to ALGA, enabling them to present a stronger and more cohesive case to the Federal Government.

Thank you for your commitment to the local government sector and your assistance in our campaign to restore the indexation of FAGs as soon as possible.

Yours sincerely



Cr Keith Rhoades

President
Local Government NSW



Mayor Troy Rickard

President
Australian Local Government Association

Attachment

Council Resolution

That the Council:

1. Acknowledges the importance of federal funding through the Financial Assistance Grants program for the continued delivery of councils services and infrastructure;
2. Acknowledges that the council will receive \$X.Y million in 2014 - 15; and
3. Will ensure that this federal funding, and other funding provided by the Federal Government under relevant grant programs, is appropriately identified as Commonwealth grant funding in council publications, including annual reports.

Rationale

FAGs are a vital part of the revenue base of all councils, and this year councils will receive \$2.3 billion from the Australian Government under this important program.

The Government's decision in the 2014 Federal Budget to freeze the indexation of FAGs for three years beginning in 2014-15 will unfortunately cost councils across Australia an estimated \$925 million by 2017-18.

ALGA and the state local government associations are seeking the support of Council for advocacy to have the Federal Government reverse the decision to freeze the indexation of FAGs.

While the FAGs are paid through each state's Local Government Grants Commission, the funding originates with the Commonwealth and it is important it is recognised as such. Council, and every other council in Australia, have been asked to pass a resolution acknowledging the importance of the Commonwealth's Financial Assistance Grants in assisting Council to provide important community infrastructure.

Council is also being asked to acknowledge the receipt of Financial Assistance Grants from the Commonwealth in media releases and council publications, including our annual report and to highlight to the media a council project costing a similar size to the FAGs received by Council so that the importance and impact of the grants can be more broadly appreciated.

WORK HEALTH AND SAFETY COMMITTEE MINUTES OF MEETING

Minutes of meeting held at 8:00am 14th August, 2015 at the Berrigan Depot.

Present: Michelle Koopman, Kevin Dunn, Jeff Manks, Scott Ansell, Karen Hanna, Aaron Chamberlain

Apologies: Nil

Previous Minutes

Moved K. Dunn seconded J. Manks that the minutes from the previous meeting, held on 11th June, 2015 be accepted. MOTION ACCEPTED.

No matters arising.

RAP

RAP reviewed. Items for discussion include:

- Mirror installed – feedback is that people are using but unable to be used in wet weather
- Pedestrian lines still not applied.

Inspections Tabled

- Workshop
- Store

Incident Reports

Nil

General Business

Purchasing Procedures

Procurement Working Group gradually developing purchasing procedures. Request to the WHS Committee is to start to think about work health and safety issues that need to be considered prior to purchasing and upon receipt and subsequent use of goods and services.

Plant Assessor Database

This database is used by the Workshop, currently only utilised for plant assessments prior to disposal of plant. Needs to be expanded to enter plant assessments at purchase, and also periodically throughout the plant's life at Council.

The database can also be used for operator competency assessments/training, and for the development of Standard Operating Procedures.

Area	Date	Inspector/s	Hazard/Non-Compliance	Risk Level	Recommended Action	Person Responsible	Proposed Completion Date	Actual Completion Date	Verification
Pools	25/10/11	MK/PG	Hazardous substances not stored correctly.	Low	Toc/Berrigan – bags of chemical powder stored in unlabelled bins – bins to be labelled. <i>Berrigan addressed, further chemical storage to be addressed at Tocumwal</i>	WSO			
Barooga Water Treatment	23/10/12	MK	Steps down to River Pump – covered in weeds and presents a severe trip hazard	High	Steps to be replaced under capital works program. <i>Steps repaired.</i>	EE		Completed	
Berrigan Depot	06/03/14	ID	Chainsaw equipment stored in shower	M		OM			
Berrigan Depot	06/03/14	ID	Outside areas of the Workshop are cluttered – poor housekeeping	M		OM			
Berrigan Depot	06/03/14	ID	Boundary fenceline needs addressing: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - East side – low mesh and heavy vegetation; - General barbed wire needs maintenance 	M	Being addressed – quotes being sought.	OM			
Office	30/09/14	JM	No SDS available for ink cartridge toner.	L	Arrange for SDS to be delivered with toner orders. <i>Request placed with AO</i>	AO		Completed	
Tocumwal Tip	27/05/15	MK	Manual handling issues with tyre stacking.	H	Review procedures for stacking – consider using mechanical aids.	EE			
Finley Recycling Centre	27/05/15	MK	Dump point for town maintenance into Cleanaway bins is dangerous	H	Barrier installation <i>Trench dug out in ramp at Tocumwal – waiting on Finley to be addressed.</i>	OM/EE			
Finley Recycling Centre	27/05/15	MK	Unknown hazards during bin sorting – at wheelie bin receipt point	H	Provide adequate gloves. Consult with Store for appropriate gloves.	Landfill Supervisor			

Area	Date	Inspector/s	Hazard/Non-Compliance	Risk Level	Recommended Action	Person Responsible	Proposed Completion Date	Actual Completion Date	Verification
					<i>Landfill Supervisor to arrange appropriate gloves.</i>				
Finley Recycling Centre	27/05/15	MK	Needles being disposed of in bins.	H	Consider installing needle disposal units at site. <i>Landfill Supervisor to arrange for units.</i>	Landfill Supervisor			
Finley Recycling Centre	27/05/15	MK	Amenities in extremely poor condition.	M	Clean and isolate from bird contamination, or remove from site. If removed, enforce procedure where gate can be closed for ten minutes to allow Supervisor to use town amenities.	EE			
Store	11/06/15	MK	Issue with locked rear exit – need to have rear egress point.	H	Spoke to Store Person – to leave side door unlocked during working hours. <i>Door kept shut but unsecured internally during the day – issue with exiting out this door however due to flammable storage.</i>	SP	28/08/15	Completed	
Store	11/06/15	MK	Hazardous substances not being stored in accordance with SDS and Chemical Register	H	Provide additional storage shelving and cabinets to store chemicals in appropriate manner. <i>Storage requirements reiterated. Cabinets to be ordered.</i>	FM/DCS			
Store	11/06/15	MK	Forklift seat damaged and needs repair or replacement	L	Repair or replace seat. <i>New seat ordered.</i>	FM/DCS			
Store	11/06/15	MK	Forklift is not inspected on a daily basis in accordance with Daily Plant Checks.	H	Forklift must be checked and signed off each day prior to use.	FM/DCS			

Area	Date	Inspector/s	Hazard/Non-Compliance	Risk Level	Recommended Action	Person Responsible	Proposed Completion Date	Actual Completion Date	Verification
					<i>Plant check book arranged through OM.</i>				
Store	11/06/15	MK	Rehabilitation Policy not displayed as per <i>Workplace Injury Management and Workers Compensation Act 1998.</i>	L	Post policy on Noticeboard	HRO		Completed	
Store	11/06/15	MK	Ladder to mezzanine floor is non-compliant.	H	Remove ladder – area is not used, and storage capacity is unknown.	FM/DCS			
Store	11/06/15	MK	Standard Operating Procedures unavailable	L	Develop SOPs for Store Person role.	ERM/FM			
Workshop	11/06/15	MK	First Aid kit has out of date items	M	Inspect and replace necessary items.	TO-AM			
Workshop	11/06/15	MK	No First Aid sign to advise of First Aid cabinet	L	Erect First Aid sign above cabinet.	TO-AM			
Workshop	11/06/15	MK	Workshop Supervisor failing to utilise PPE	H	Enforce PPE rules for the Workshop – Supervisor must wear ear protection.	OM			
Workshop	11/06/15	MK	Hazardous substances not stored according to SDS and Chemical Register	H	Arrange for additional storage room to store hazardous chemicals.	OM			
Workshop	11/06/15	MK	Spill Kit not available for use.	L	Spill kit sitting in Workshop – still wrapped in plastic – it needs to be ready for use	OM			
Workshop	11/06/15	MK	Eye Wash station has not been inspected	M	Ensure eyewash station is included on inspection list during next Fire Extinguisher/Eye Wash/Safety Shower inspection.	OM/DM			
Workshop	11/06/15	MK	Access to fire extinguishers inhibited by storage at the front of the office.	H	Remove storage in front of the office and allow clear access to the fire extinguisher	OM			
Workshop	11/06/15	MK	Non compliant ladder at mezzanine floor access	H	Remove ladder and install compliant ladder,	OM			

Area	Date	Inspector/s	Hazard/Non-Compliance	Risk Level	Recommended Action	Person Responsible	Proposed Completion Date	Actual Completion Date	Verification
			above workshop office		or remove ladder and prohibit access.				
Workshop	11/06/15	MK	Poor housekeeping in office and side office/storage area.	M	Clean up areas and store items correctly.	OM			

- Shaded areas include items requiring immediate action, or advice on progression.

RTW Policy

Return to Work and Rehabilitation Policy is out of date and requires review. This will involve WHS Committee, Human Resources, Union Representative and General Manager.

Suggestions

- Follow up from last meeting on the upgrading of lights on work utes used during night work, and installation of nudge bars.

Meeting closed : 8:5am

Next Meeting: 10th September, 2015