

Traffic Management Improvement at Roadworks Project

What is the project?

The way we deliver traffic control arrangements at roadwork sites has evolved over the past decade. These changes have produced many safety performance improvements. Despite these efforts there have still been work place incidents that have resulted in death and injury to workers.

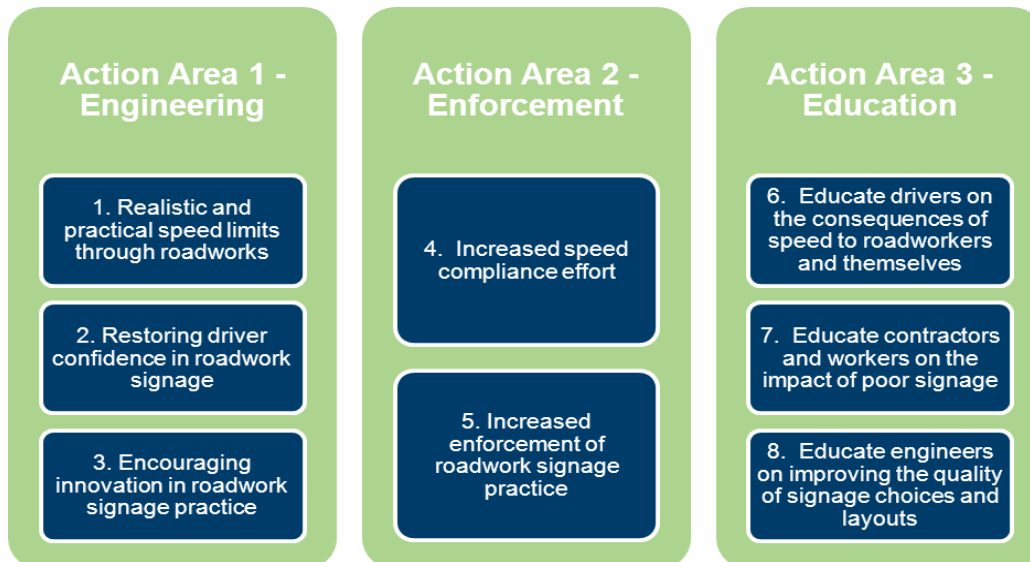
Transport and Main Roads (TMR) is committed to a zero harm safety culture. With a vision to achieve *'Roadwork sites that are safe for workers and road users at an affordable cost'* TMR has developed the Traffic Management Improvement Project.



The objectives of this project include:

- improve safety of road workers (including traffic controllers)
- deliver safe and reliable travel through worksites (with delays reduced as much as possible)
- reduce excessive and incorrect roadwork signage
- improve driver compliance with speed limits in roadwork sites
- achieve the above objectives at an affordable cost.

Delivering against these objectives will be achieved through focussing on the “three Es”, namely: better *Engineering*, effective *Enforcement*, and raising public understanding through *Education*. The scope for this project has been categorised into these three key action areas with eight projects divided between them. These are:



The project approach focusses on speed limit and road work signage consistency, creating credibility, thereby encouraging respect from drivers and voluntary compliance. For those who choose not to comply there will be consequences through effective and wide spread enforcement.

Project actions

Action to date



Industry Alliance Group (IAG)

Formed an IAG (first meeting held 4 April 2014) to assist Transport and Main Roads realise the project objectives by providing feedback and input, disseminating information to members, and promoting and encouraging best practice. The IAG membership includes industry representatives, traffic management, contractors, engineers, RACQ, Local Government, and Trucking Association.

Two x MUTCD releases

Following feedback from industry and as a result of recommendations from the ARRB review into worksite traffic management the MUTCD was reviewed and released in September 2013. Major changes included permitting variations to the standard MUTCD treatments through innovation, either in excess of, or less than, those required by the MUTCD. Additional feedback was received from industry at forums and events over the last six months and in response TMR has updated and provided further clarification on key issues raised. These changes include an update to clarify RPEQ approval requirements and additional guidance on the accountabilities of level 2 and level 3 trained traffic managers.

Speed enforcement at Mudgeraba roadworks trial

This trial sees QPS speed enforcement via the Camera Detected Offence Program being used in a roadwork zone. CARRSQ are also working with TMR to undertake an evaluation of speed compliance both before and after enforcement.

Main Roads Technical Specification (MRTS02) Provision for Traffic update for Road Asset Maintenance Contractors (RAMC)

The review of the MRTS02 provided an opportunity to improve value for money and efficiencies through encouraging engineering innovation and the use of engineering judgement and experience to achieve safe and legally defensible outcomes.

AAPA/TMR Safety at Roadworks/ Changing responsibilities workshop

This forum provided an opportunity for TMR to provide over 300 industry participants with an update on key technical policy changes and upcoming traffic management improvement projects. Topics included Outcomes of the ARRB and TMR review on delivering improved safety and efficiency, Review of MUTCD changes, MRTS02 Provision for Traffic, Implementation of Enhanced Practitioner Competence requirements, sessions from Consult Australia and Civil Contractors.

Next three months

Traffic Modelling Level of Service tool

Test a tool designed to provide traffic modelling information and solution options for engineers, if successful release tool and supporting materials for use.

Provision for Traffic (MRTS02) review, update and release new version

Deliver an updated technical specification that clearly defines TMR requirements for the provision for traffic, including penalties for incorrect signage and Regional Director requirement to approve speed limits on Traffic Guidance Schemes.

Specification change awareness sessions for TMR & industry, Engineers Australia, & RPEQ

Provide information to TMR staff and industry regarding the technical specification, an overview of its contents, its purpose and an explanation of any new amendments.

Review and enhancement of level 3 and 4 traffic management training

Design and deliver an updated and enhanced training package for traffic management design, surveillance and inspection that reflects the new expectations for designers and inspectors of traffic management plans and traffic guidance schemes.

Speed Camera Enforcement Traffic Road Use Manual (TRUM) note

Provide project managers and contractors with guidance and a process to follow on the evidence required by TMR and the QPS to consider a request for speed camera enforcement at longer term roadwork sites.

For more information about the projects contact Coryn Hedges on 3066 8646 or email coryn.j.hedges@tmr.qld.gov.au.