

The Australian Bicycle Council (ABC) held its 51<sup>st</sup> meeting in Canberra on Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> and Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> March 2016. The meeting was chaired by Craig Moran (Austroads Network Program Manager) and the secretariat was Tony Arnold, (Executive Officer of the Australian Bicycle Council). The meeting included a session on Thursday to meet with national and state-based bicycle membership organisations. The next ABC meeting will occur in Sydney in July 2016.

### Active Transport Planning from 2017

The Department of Infrastructure and Regional Development has committed to funding the administration of the ABC until the end of December 2016. This coincides with the end of the current National Cycling Strategy. The Department continues to encourage Austroads, the States and Territories to explore opportunities for funding models to support jurisdictional engagement from 2017 onwards.

State and Territory transport agencies have indicated to Austroads and the Department of Infrastructure and Transport that there is a focus on active transport in their planning, policies and guidance. The future of any national approach to active transport will be considered by Commonwealth, State and Territory Ministers at the Transport and Infrastructure Council in 2016.

### National Cycling Strategy – Implementation Report 2015

The National Cycling Strategy Implementation Report is an annual report that documents progress on the delivery of the National Cycling Strategy. The 2015 Implementation Report has been submitted to the Transport and Infrastructure Senior Officials' Committee (TISOC) and the Transport and Infrastructure Council (TIC). The report will be published in mid 2016

### National Road Safety Strategy – Action Plan 2015-17

The ABC discussed the National Road Safety Strategy Action Plan 2015-17 and considered how current or future work may be influenced by the actions defined in the plan. Several case studies were discussed that tackle various actions from the plan. An example of a project that is currently looking to improve the safety of vulnerable road users is the upgrade of St Kilda Rd in Victoria.

### Cycling Communications

The ABC members provided an update on recent campaigns and strategies such as: Go Together (NSW), Travel Happy (VIC), Part Way is OK (ACT).

### Bicycle Touring and Rail Trails

The ABC members discussed how bicycle touring could be encouraged and whether the ABC has a role to play in providing some form of national coordination of routes.

### Road Rules

The ABC members provided updates on road rule changes being rolled out in their jurisdiction. Rules that are of interest include minimum passing distance laws and footpath cycling laws.

---

## **Austroads Projects Managed by the ABC Secretariat**

Projects in the 2015-16 financial year:

- **NT2011 - Cycling Aspects of Austroads Guides**  
This project will ensure that the Cycling Aspects of Austroads Guides document is updated with the latest content as published throughout the various Austroads Guides. The project was awarded to ARRB and has produced a draft version that was provided to the ABC members for review.
- **NS1996 - Bicycle Parking Review**  
This project will provide updated content on bicycle parking and end of trip facilities for Austroads Guides and Research Reports. The project was awarded to GTA consultants and has provided draft guidelines for inclusion in the Austroads Guide to Traffic Management Part 11: Parking as well as a research report which will provide additional guidance.

## **Other Austroads Projects**

### **TP1885 – National Guidelines for Transport System Management**

The NGTSM provides guidance for transport planners and enables the identification, assessment, appraisal and evaluation of proposed transport initiatives. The current project looks to incorporate active travel in these guidelines for the first time, providing an improved ability to compare the costs and benefits of transport policy decisions across all transport modes.

Stage 1 of the National Guidelines for Transport System Management (NGTSM) content has been published, however, the Active Travel component of the work has not been released. The first draft of the Active Travel project evaluation methodology and parameter values was recently released for comment and is open to submissions until 31<sup>st</sup> March 2016.

The ABC discussed the feedback that will be provided to the NGTSM Steering Committee on behalf of the ABC. Concerns were raised regarding the data supporting the notion that walking and cycling are dangerous modes of transport. It was suggested that data from the National Cycling Participation Survey would provide a better estimate of cycling exposure.

### **TP1845 – Update to the Guide to Road Design Part 3: Geometric Design**

The Guide to Road Design Part 3 covers general geometric road design considerations such as sight distance, corner radii etc. The guide is currently under review and a working paper will soon be available for review by the ABC.

### **TP2050 – Update to the Guide to Road Design Part 4: Intersections**

The Guide to Road Design Part 4 contains several documents that cover:

- Intersections and Crossings (Part 4)
- Unsignalised and Signalised Intersections (Part 4A)
- Roundabouts (Part 4B)
- Interchanges (Part 4C)

The ABC reviewed a document that provided a project update on the revision of parts 4 and 4A.

### **TP1848– Update to the Guide to Road Design Part 6A: Pedestrian and Cyclist Paths**

The Guide to Road Design Part 6A provides detailed guidance for the design of pedestrian and cyclist paths. This guide is currently under review by ARRB. The ABC was updated on progress and informed that the review will include significant change to the way “path width” is selected and the guidance around “path termination” treatments.

### NT2013 – Update to the Guide to Traffic Management Part 4: Network Management

The Guide to Traffic Management Part 4 provides guidance on traffic management at a network level. It addresses the needs of the various categories of user, the characteristics of various types of network and describes a planning process for balancing or prioritising the competing needs of different users. The ABC reviewed a draft version of the revised Guide to Traffic Management Part 4.

Some content involving the selection of appropriate path widths has been moved into the Guide to Road Design Part 6A and the ABC agreed that this was a sensible change.

### TT1967 – Bicycle Safety at Roundabouts

This project aims to identify the factors associated with bicycle-related crash types at roundabouts and the manner in which these factors may be remediated. The project includes a literature review, an analysis of crash data involving cyclists at roundabouts, identification of roundabouts with a high number of cycling crashes, detailed roundabout design analysis of high-risk roundabouts and a report featuring recommendations for improvements to roundabout design.

No further working papers have been delivered since the paper reviewed at the last ABC meeting.

## Consultation with Attendees of the Australian Bicycle Summit

The Australian Bicycle Summit was held in Canberra on the 16<sup>th</sup> March 2016 and included the following objectives:

1. Progress a discussion on a National Body representing cyclists in Australia.
2. Determine an agreed national platform for the 2016 election.
3. Review input to the ABC, National Cycling Strategy and Austroads.

Attendees at the Australian Bicycle Summit were asked to attend a workshop with the ABC on Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> March to discuss the National Cycling Strategy 2011-16, Austroads and future directions for cycling governance on a national level.

Stephen Hodge (Cycling Promotion Fund) provided an update on the work carried out at the Australian Bicycle Summit. Tony Arnold (ABC) provided an update on the National Cycling Strategy and some details on the structure of the Austroads Guides in relation to cycling. The Summit attendees noted that the National Cycling Strategy was a good document but that it was not widely known and that the delivery of the Strategy was not adequately resourced.

The Department of Infrastructure and Regional Development confirmed that the funding provided by The Department for the National Cycling Strategy would cease at the end of 2016. The ABC and the Summit Attendees discussed various aspects that are required to deliver a new Strategy including:

- Conducting a review of the current Strategy.
- Whether a new Strategy should cover only cycling or should cover both walking and cycling.
- How the Strategy will be resourced.
- How a Strategy will influence areas traditionally outside the scope of Transport such as Land Use and Planning.

The group also discussed the draft National Guidelines for Transport System Management document on Active Travel. The group expressed concern with the section on the crash risk of walking and cycling.