

2010

National Local Government Asset Management and Public Works Engineering Conference

The New Age dawns

- Prime Minister Kevin Rudd: 'the Commonwealth will link its future infrastructure investments to the implementation of nationally consistent asset and financial management by LG'
- National Asset and Financial Management Frameworks, and the Assessment Framework
- Local Government Reform Fund
- Australian Centre of Excellence for Local Government
- The 2010 Conference agenda includes outstanding speakers covering:
 - o The New Age: implications for Councils
 - o sustainability and innovation: recycling, higher productivity vehicles, climate change
 - o regional asset management collaboration
 - o sourcing and developing staff
 - o new infrastructure standards
 - o good practice case studies
 - o Gala Dinner

New Feature: if you have a topic you want to discuss: 'Open Space' is the opportunity to have your say.

**New national
imperatives drive
the reform agenda**

WHEN:

Thursday May 13 and Friday May 14, 2010

WHERE:

The Plaza Ballroom, Regent Theatre,
191 Collins Street, Melbourne CBD



Institute of
Public Works
Engineering
Australia



ENGINEERS
AUSTRALIA
Victoria Division

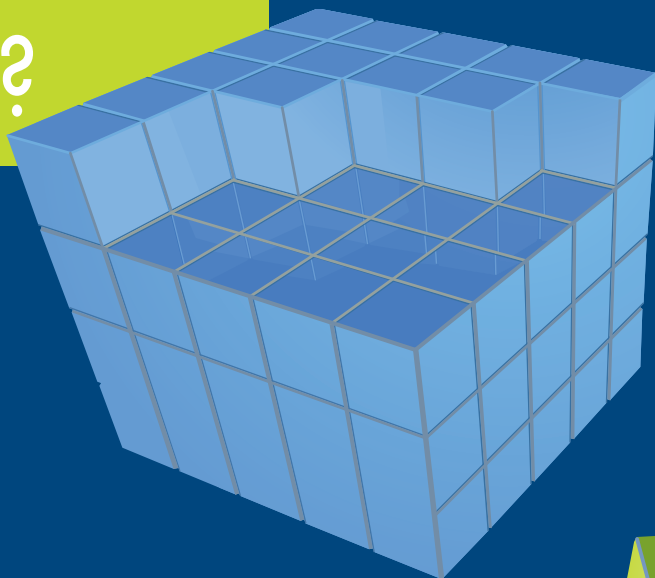


MUNICIPAL ASSOCIATION OF VICTORIA

Who should attend?

Councillors, CEOs, Infrastructure/Service/Finance/HR/Sustainability/Risk/IT/Records Managers, as well as consultants, contractors, stakeholders.

- Why travel the earth looking for answers? You will find them right here over two exciting days!
- A better service, not a better asset, is the key indication of successful asset management.



DAY 1 – THURSDAY 13 MAY

8.00am to 9.00am - REGISTRATION AND HEALTHY BREAKFAST

9.00am to 10.30 **SESSION 1 - PLENARY**

INTRODUCTION

- Cr. Bill McArthur, MAV President
- Mark Varmalis, President IPWEA Victoria

OPENING ADDRESS

- Tim Pallas MP – Victorian Minister for Roads and Ports

KEYNOTE PRESENTATION: 'Planning our National Infrastructure: Issues and Challenges, Directions and Priorities', Stephen Alchin, Executive Director Planning, Infrastructure Australia.

Stephen started his career at Gosford City Council, before moving to the Local Government and Shires Association of New South Wales. He has also worked extensively at senior levels in the NSW Department of Transport before moving to the private sector. Infrastructure Australia has determined long term national infrastructure priorities after considering the challenges posed by growing cities and an ageing population. Stephen's comments will be made two days after the 2010 Federal Budget and will be highly relevant for local government nationally.

10.30 to 11.00am - MORNING TEA

11.00 to 12.30pm **SESSION 2A - NATIONAL TRENDS IN INFRASTRUCTURE (BALLROOM)**

- **Engineers Australia National Infrastructure Report Card: Professor John Wilson, Centre for Sustainable Infrastructure, Swinburne University.**

John was the Victorian chairman of Engineers Australia in 2002 and a member of the steering committee for the 2005 Infrastructure Report Card. John will provide a briefing on the 2010 Infrastructure Report Card which is scheduled to be launched in March 2010, including some of the critical issues with infrastructure and benchmarks from a national perspective.

- **The new National LG Assessment Framework for Asset and Financial management: Ian Mann (CT Management) and Jeff Roorda (Jeff Roorda and Associates).**

Following the Prime Minister's recent speech urging local government to support nationally consistent asset and financial standards, each State and Territory, in conjunction with their Local Government Association, has submitted improvement proposals to the Local Government Reform Fund. To assess the ongoing progress of local government nationally, a national assessment framework has been developed by a team of specialists. Each Council will be expected to report their outcomes against this framework. Ian and Jeff have been highly involved in the development of the assessment framework and will discuss the implications of the proposed process for individual Councils.

- **New national directions in the pursuit of excellence: Graham Sansom, Director, Australian Centre of Excellence for Local Government (ACELG).**

The ACELG was launched by the Federal Government in late 2009 with Graham Sansom as its first Director. The Centre has developed a strategic work plan and will be deeply involved in encouraging local government innovation and best practice. Graham will discuss these plans and how they can assist with the challenges facing Councils.

SESSION 2B – SUSTAINABLE PRODUCTS AND INNOVATIONS

- **How recycled and environmentally friendly products can benefit your organisation: Stephen Reardon, Research Manager, ECO-Buy Ltd.**

ECO-Buy assists Local Governments to achieve improved environmental sustainability outcomes through their purchasing. ECO-Buy will showcase some of the great examples of where Local Governments are using recycled content, energy saving and water saving products in their infrastructure works, including insights into the spending trends, cost benefits, associated environmental outcomes.

- **Use of recycled demolition materials for footpaths and shared paths - Geotechnical laboratory testing results and implications: Dr Arul Arulrajah, Centre for Sustainable Infrastructure, Swinburne University.**

Currently in Victoria, 1.4 million tonnes of crushed brick and 200,000 tonnes of crushed glass are stockpiled annually and these stockpiles are growing. Traditional footpath and bicycle path building materials are becoming scarce in some regions. In some cases, the use of these materials is unsustainable from both an environmental and cost perspective. A research project was recently completed by Swinburne University investigating the usage of recycled crushed glass, crushed brick and crushed concrete in footpath and shared path applications.

- **Sustainable products and methods in construction – some case studies: Paul O'Connell, Environment & Sustainability Manager, Abigroup Contractors Pty Ltd.**

With a key focus on sustainable construction practices, this presentation highlights the key business drivers behind sustainability in infrastructure, the key challenges from a contractor's perspective and demonstrates key examples of the potential environmental, social and economic benefits associated with innovation in alternative construction materials and sustainable engineering practices on major construction projects.

12.30 to 1.30pm - LUNCH

DAY 1 – THURSDAY 13 MAY

1.30 to
3.00pm

SESSION 3A – EMERGING TRENDS IN ASSET MANAGEMENT

- **Using the Australian Infrastructure Financial Management Guidelines to Overcome an Asset Management Funding Gap: John Comrie.**
The AIFMG were released by IPWEA in 2009 and were prepared to assist Australian local governments to follow financial strategies that support and facilitate best-value asset management. John Comrie who was one of the team of three co-authors of the AIFMG. He will outline their content and key messages and in particular highlight the keys to sound financial planning, use of debt and funding policies. John is a former Executive Director of the SA Government's Office of LG and the LG Association of South Australia.
- **Capital Works Planning Process: Linking Levels of Service to Operational Plans and Budgets: Vivek Kangesu, Townsville City Council, Queensland.**
Townsville City has developed Evidence Based Treatment Projection (EBTP) and Asset information Consolidation and Evaluation (AiCE) models to provide short-term and long-term Capital works plans. The presentation provides the total capital works planning within Townsville City including effective and efficient renewal model, consolidation of new and renewal capital works, and how the prioritisation of capital works enhances service standards and sustainability.
- **Local Government Sustainability in NSW, Progress to Date: Percy Allan, Principal of Percy Allan and Associates and chair of the Inquiry into Sustainability of NSW Local Government Finances.**
Professor Allan will address the key recommendations of the Inquiry into the Financial Sustainability of Local Government in NSW, progress in implementing those recommendations, other initiatives being undertaken to achieve sustainability and the outlook for reforms. Percy holds many positions including Chairman of the NSW Premier's Council on the Cost and Quality of Government. Previously he has also been Secretary of the NSW Treasury for almost a decade.

SESSION 3B - HIGH PRODUCTIVITY VEHICLES AND THE ASSET IMPACTS

Asset Mates Live Debate – How can we best manage impacts of HPVs?

Panel discussion moderated by Chair: Rose Elphick, CEO, Victorian Freight Logistics Council.

- **Tony Noske, Noske Transport**
- **Philip Lovell, CEO Victorian Transport Association**
- **Brian Nye, CEO Australasian Railway Association**
- **Damien Hense, ARRB**
- **Peter Harper HDS**

High Productivity and heavy vehicles are being used by the transport industry in increasing numbers to cope with the rapidly growing freight task. The issues involved with these vehicles and how to manage them are of significant interest to the local government sector. Currently there are a number of HPV trials being monitored, and route assessment tools are planned to assist Councils to evaluate future proposals.

3.00 to 3.30pm - AFTERNOON TEA

3.30 to
5.00pm

SESSION 4A – REGIONAL ASSET MANAGEMENT

- **FNQROC Regional Asset Management Strategy and Implementation: Darlene Irvine and Gerard Read, Cairns Regional Council, Queensland.**
The FNQROC signed off on a regional asset management strategy in early 2009 and is now in the implementation phase. The strategy aims to achieve a consistent, efficient and effective framework for responsible service delivery by Councils in the region. It also aims to improve the asset management capacity within each Council. The ROC sees the initiative as being highly supportive of the new Federal Government's policies for local government.
- **The case for regional asset management service – case study: Don Phillips Ararat Rural City Council, Vic.**
The Wimmera Mallee Asset Management Group of Councils has been planning a regional asset service for some time. Don will explore the current issues with the existing model of asset management, including a lack of resources and duplication, and then discuss the proposed regional service model.
- **Darwin Council's asset management journey, learnings and future directions. Luccio Cercarelli, General Manager Infrastructure, and Tom Maher, Manager Assets.**
Soundly based asset management and financial plans allow the Darwin City Council to ascertain sustainable service levels, affordable asset acquisitions, cost-effective maintenance regimes, appropriate divestment of assets and corresponding funding requirements, based on the principle of sustainability of the built and natural environment. Luccio and Tom will discuss Darwin City Council's asset management journey to sustainability. Tom Maher recently received the prestigious 2009 Technologist of the Year Award from Engineers Australia.

SESSION 4B – INFRASTRUCTURE STANDARDS RESPONDING TO SUSTAINABILITY

- **Infrastructure standards model – the Gippsland initiative: Geoff Reynolds, Sector Leader Meinhardt Infrastructure & Environment Pty Ltd.**

There is consensus amongst many Local Governments, developers, and consultants that significant financial benefits and time savings could be achieved from the adoption of shared Infrastructure standards and specifications. Based upon the north-central region Infrastructure Design Manual (IDM), 6 Gippsland regional councils are currently working towards implementation of the shared IDM.

- **Green Infrastructure Rating Scheme Explained: Doug Harland, CEO Australian Green Infrastructure Council.**

The AGIC has formed to be a catalyst for advancing the delivery and operation of sustainable infrastructure in Australia. This will be done by the operation of a voluntary industry compiled rating scheme.

- **Carbon Pollution Reduction Scheme and Impacts on Construction: Dominique La Fontaine, Pitt & Sherry**

Dominique is a policy specialist with more than 20 years experience who has previously been chief executive of the Clean Energy Council and the Australian Wind Energy Association. She was a founding member of the International Business Council for Sustainable Energy. Dominique is a Board member of the Global Wind Energy Council and participates in the Australian Pacific Partnership for Clean Development and Climate (APP) – Renewable Energy and Distributed Generation Taskforce.

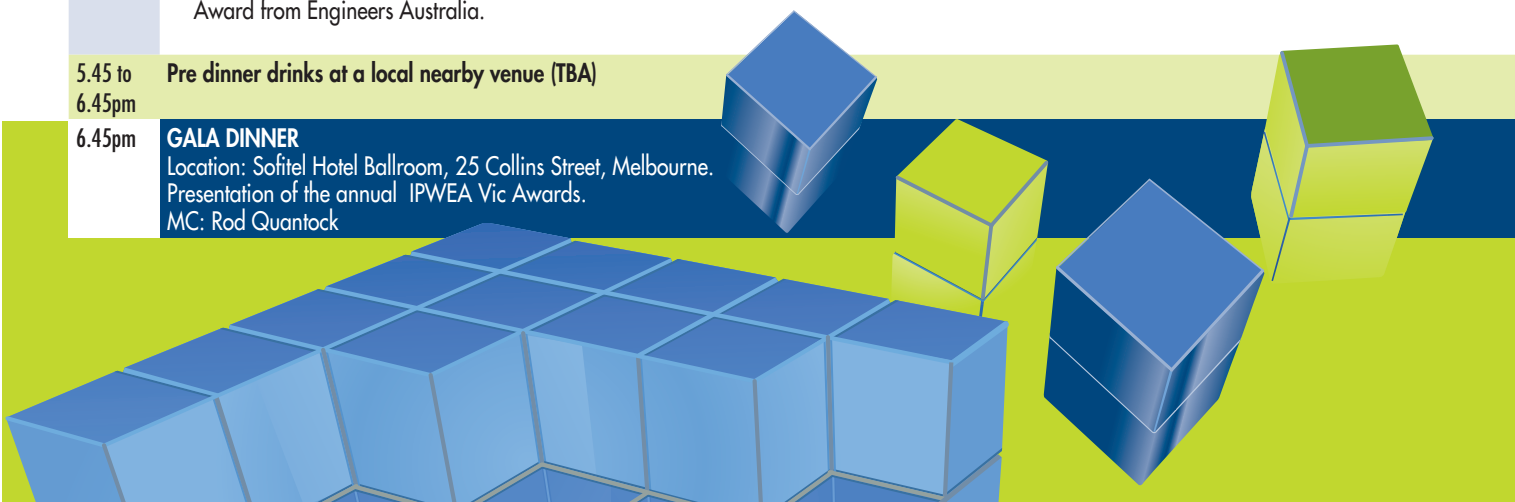
5.45 to
6.45pm

Pre dinner drinks at a local nearby venue (TBA)

6.45pm

GALA DINNER

Location: Sofitel Hotel Ballroom, 25 Collins Street, Melbourne.
Presentation of the annual IPWEA Vic Awards.
MC: Rod Quantock



DAY 2 – FRIDAY 14 MAY

9.00 to 10.30am	SESSION 5 - PLENARY KEY NOTE ADDRESS - SUSTAINABLE INFRASTRUCTURE & ENVIRONMENT <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Impact of climate change on road infrastructure: Dr Mark Harvey, Bureau of Infrastructure, Transport and Regional Economics (BITRE) There is an increasing body of evidence that the earth's climate is changing with some of the changes attributable to human activities. Climate change can have direct and indirect impacts on road infrastructure. The direct impacts are due to the effects of the environment. Rainfall changes can alter moisture balances and influence pavement deterioration. In addition, temperature can affect the aging of bitumen resulting in an increase in embrittlement of the surface chip seals that represent more than 90% of the rural sealed roads in Australia. There will also be changes in road agency costs as a result of projected climate changes, both temperature and rainfall.• Practical local government adaptation strategies: Steve Gawler, CEO, International Council of Local Environmental Initiatives (ICLEI) As climate change impacts more significantly, it is becoming evident we cannot keep building bigger and bigger engineering solutions – we can't afford it and don't have sufficient certainty about climate change scenarios to design fail-safe solutions. ICLEI is working with local governments around Australia and internationally to plan adaptive responses to climate change. Recent experience provides valuable guidance in how to use the unique policy levers available to the local government sector to design resilience and flexibility into our assets and services. Steve is a former Council CEO.	
10.30 to 11.00am	MORNING TEA	
11.00am to noon	OPEN SPACE: HAVE YOUR SAY AND INVITE DISCUSSION Conference attendees will be invited to host small group discussions on any topic they feel is relevant. This is your chance to have your say!	
12noon to 12.30pm	SESSION 6A – ASSET MANAGEMENT SYSTEMS <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Utilising AM Data and Systems: Guy Wilson-Brown, Bayside City Council, Vic. Guy will explain how Council maintenance contractors record, through mobile computing, asset data including asset condition and defects, with programmed maintenance and renewal work on the asset. All asset identification numbers link directly with Council's GIS and asset database. There are demonstrated links between renewal gap modelling and the development of strategies for particular asset types.	SESSION 6B – SUSTAINABLE ENVIRONMENT <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Creating a Culture of Sustainability in Local Government: Larissa Brown, Executive Director, Centre for Sustainability Leadership Larissa is the 2008 Australian Young Environmentalist of the Year. She is the founder and executive director of the Centre for Sustainability Leadership, a non profit organization dedicated to supporting Australians to make their communities, workplaces and sectors more sustainable. Larissa has personally interviewed 100 of the world's greatest sustainability leaders across twenty countries and five continents on what it takes to cause a real systemic change towards a sustainable world.
12.30 to 1.30pm	LUNCH	
1.30 to 3.00pm	SESSION 7A – ASSET ASSESSMENT <ul style="list-style-type: none">• MAV Sustainability Program: the new frontier in assessing Council financial and asset sustainability: Michael Courtney, CT Management. The MAV Sustainability Program is breaking new ground in providing one credible view of a Council's long term future. Many Councils have inconsistent asset and financial plans. Many Council Plans are often built on the aspirations of the Council without reference to its capability and capacity. Further, some Councils do not have detailed Strategic Resource Plans and long term financial plans in place – and often the scenarios are not tested financially.• Integrating Asset Registers: Richard Bramham, City of Manningham, Vic. Manningham Council currently has a number of software systems that contain asset data which contribute to the overall management and long term planning of its infrastructure assets. Manningham considers the integration of these systems as a practical and financially responsible means of managing Council's infrastructure assets by ensuring that these important assets continue to provide a specified level of service delivery to defined standards over their entire life.• The Esperance Journey of AM – But where's my roadmap? Mal Osborne, CEO Esperance Council, WA. What has Esperance Council learnt from the commencement of its asset management journey to where it has currently progressed to? Cultural and organisational roadblocks needed to be negotiated. If we didn't start the journey, we would never get anywhere. Mal has promoted the need to link organisational improvement planning with improved asset management.	SESSION 7B – SOURCING AND DEVELOPING STAFF <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Sourcing and Developing staff: Chris Walton, CEO APESMA An overview of the current need for engineers, what is being done to address the issue at the national level and what individual organisations can do to address their technical resource needs.• Migrant Engineers: A cornerstone of economic development: Janos Baranyai, National Director, Meinhardt How to attract professional engineers to Australia in an increasingly competitive environment and simultaneously how to keep and safeguard the quality of the engineering profession. Consideration of issues related to difficulties and obstacles newly arrived engineers face in Australia, additional/secondary benefits they offer over and above the technical expertise and ways the profession can assist.• Common concerns and practical ways for engineering managers to tap into the large overseas qualified engineer workforce: Ian Little, Engineering manager and author of Project Australia, a guide to assist migrant engineers get a job in Australia. The concerns regarding workplace readiness and the conservative nature of recruitment processes in Australia are stifling opportunities for overseas qualified engineers. At the same time, engineering organisations are missing out on opportunities to expand due to shortages of experienced engineers
3.00 to 3.20pm	AFTERNOON TEA	
3.20 to 4.00pm	SESSION 8 – PLENARY 'The Curse of the Expert', John Dengate, Twyford. Why is it that the community often don't embrace the changes we recommend? Why can't they just trust that we know what we are doing - after all, we are qualified and have been working on this for years. This session will be run as an inclusive town hall public meeting, relating to the need for Councils to bring communities with them... and how to do it. The session will explore some of the myths about engineers as experts, from both the Council engineer's perspective and the community's view. You will put yourself in their shoes, understand better what is going on for each, and explore some new strategies to take back with you. John Dengate is an engineer by trade who works extensively with communities. Closing comment: Mark Varmalis President IPWEA.	
4.00pm	Conference close	

REGISTRATION: for online registration go to www.mav.asn.au/amc2010

CONFERENCE COST: The Conference cost (including dinner) is \$770 plus GST for Council personnel / IPWEA members and \$810 plus GST for other attendees. For those only attending the dinner, the cost is \$145 plus GST. Cancellations will only have payments refunded if received by May 4, 2010. No single day registrations are available.

ACCOMMODATION (SUGGESTED): Mercure Hotel, 13 Spring Street, Melbourne. **Toll free:** 1800 813 442. (ask for 'MAV rate')
CONFERENCE CONTACT: John Hennessy at the MAV by **email:** jhennessy@mav.asn.au or **phone:** 03 9667 5525 or **fax:** 03 9667 5550.
Please note the program is subject to variation. Check MAV web site for updates (www.mav.asn.au)