



our **Roads** for **Future**

State Roads Infrastructure Service **Policy**

November 2014



State Roads Infrastructure Service Policy

State roads and associated infrastructure are Crown assets managed under the Roads and Jetties Act 1935. They are the most important and heavily-utilised transport infrastructure in Tasmania and provide the arteries for the Tasmanian economy and community. These assets include approximately 3,700 kilometres of roads, 1,300 bridges and major structures and 9,500 hectares of land. The replacement value of our State road infrastructure is approximately \$6.8 billion.

This State Roads Infrastructure Service Policy applies to the management of state road infrastructure assets and the associated services provided by the Transport Infrastructure Services Division of the Department of State Growth on behalf of the Minister for Infrastructure.

This Tasmanian State Roads Infrastructure Service Policy supports the Tasmanian Infrastructure Strategy's long-term vision for transport infrastructure, which is:

- » coordinated land use and infrastructure planning
- » commercial delivery of road, rail and ports
- » infrastructure built in accordance with 'safe system' principles
- » sustainable funding
- » cost reflective pricing
- » logistics chain efficiency
- » transport user charter
- » public transport system a first choice option providing a cost effective alternative to more road infrastructure
- » integrated passenger transport system with appropriate services and concessions to alleviate social disadvantage

Policy Objectives

Transport Infrastructure Services is committed to providing efficient road infrastructure and services for our customers and visitors that:

- » are as safe as reasonably possible;
- » support economic growth through responsible investment; and
- » enhance the travelling experience for road users.

ROAD INFRASTRUCTURE AND SERVICES THAT **ARE AS SAFE AS REASONABLY POSSIBLE**

Travelling on any road exposes us to a range of risks - a fact that we often take for granted. The State road authority will take all reasonable measures to make our roads as safe as reasonably possible.

We will do this by:

- » reducing the level of risk exposure for road users;
- » reducing the severity of consequences of driver errors; and
- » supporting the implementation of the Road Safety Strategy.



ROAD INFRASTRUCTURE AND SERVICES THAT **SUPPORT ECONOMIC GROWTH**

Freight is the lifeblood of our economy and the importance of road transport for our economic growth cannot be overstated. Modern road infrastructure is built to accommodate large freight vehicles that are expected to wear out our roads over time. We then reconstruct the roads as part of an ongoing asset renewal cycle, which is indirectly funded through nationally consistent heavy vehicle charges paid for by freight vehicle operators.

We are aware that some road users can find large freight vehicles intimidating and we will endeavour to provide infrastructure that caters for the needs of all our road users. Transport Infrastructure Services will promote freight transport productivity while sustainably managing the State-owned road assets for all our customers.

This will be achieved by:

- » providing well defined freight vehicle access networks and policies that are responsive to the needs of our industry customers;
- » maintaining high levels of travel time reliability and ride quality on our major freight networks;
- » planning, designing and providing fit-for-purpose road infrastructure to meet levels of service for all road users that our community can afford; and
- » pursuing innovative opportunities to increase freight transport productivity while providing for any associated increase in infrastructure costs.

ROAD INFRASTRUCTURE AND SERVICES THAT **ENHANCE THE TRAVELLING EXPERIENCE**

Most of us spend a lot of time on the roads, whether travelling for work, visiting family and friends or pursuing recreational activities. We travel on and around our roads using a range of different types of transport – buses, cars, motor bikes, bicycles and on foot. Travelling on our roads should be a positive experience whether you are a local or a visitor.

We will enhance the travelling experience for road users by:

- » providing a customer charter, including the levels of service our customers and visitors should expect.
- » making sure litter collection and vegetation management are maintained to a high standard on important visitor routes;
- » proactively providing road information to road users, including safety and directional signage;
- » making sure roadsides are kept free of distracting advertising material; and
- » promoting and enabling access to significant points of interest for tourist visitors.

Implementation Principles

Transport Infrastructure Services will apply the following principles in implementing this State Roads Infrastructure Service Policy:

Our primary concern is the efficient system-wide movement of people and freight not vehicles.

We are committed to understanding our customers' expectations and providing levels of service that they find of value.

We will be innovative in maximising benefits from existing infrastructure investments.

We will take a cooperative approach and seek mutual benefit in our dealings with other infrastructure providers and governments.

We will acknowledge and proactively limit the disturbance of natural and cultural heritage values.

Our policy objectives will be implemented in a cost-effective way, taking the needs of future generations into account.