

AITPM Conference 2008 Shrink Wrap

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Incoming AITPM National President
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Queensland University of Technology

CRICOS No. 000213J

The Workshops

- Austroads Workshop (Peter Croft, ARRB)
 - **Important dialogue with wider transport planning and management community on development of the Guidelines**
 - Insight into comprehensiveness of Guides and their currency to deal with today's and tomorrow's transport challenges
 - **Robust feedback offered by audience on development and layout of Guidelines**
 - Good appreciation provided on Structure, Format, Principles, intended Users of the Guidelines
 - Useful update on other tools being developed by ARRB with Austroads



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The Workshops

- Bicycle Workshop
 - Sorry I couldn't be there!
 - **I was told that it demonstrated that WA is leading the way in bicycle network planning and delivery**
 - A few were a bit sore afterwards I hear...



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The Workshops

- Universal Access Workshop (Ben Sgherza, consultant and VIP)
 - **Provided us with consideration of the concept of universal access, to build our skills and confidence, using interactive practical learning exercises**
 - We workshoped the types of disabilities, their causes, and their barriers. A wealth of input from the floor
 - **reminded that Age is one that we all have a personal interest in**
 - learnt how important the pedestrian environment is



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The Workshops

- Universal Access Workshop (Ben Sgherza, consultant and VIP)
 - Strong statistics that 20% of the Australian population has a disability while one third are impacted by a disability
 - **The experiential exercises were eye opening**
 - **Writing our name with 4 different abilities**
 - **wheelchair and white cane experientials provided first hand insight into challenges facing folks with different mobilities**



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The Workshops

- Thanks to Main Roads for their comfortable, close and welcoming venue, and for their hospitality and overall support



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Welcome Reception

- Warmly welcomed by our many trade display sponsors as well as our Conference and National sponsors
- Andrew Hulse and Bill Cirocco introduced us to our budding talent in the 2008 Scholars
- All of whom spoke eloquently and inspirationally about their opportunity in coming to the Conference

Official Opening and Keynote

- Hon Alannah MacTiernan MLA
 - **Portfolio focusing on combining transport management with land use**
 - **We used to have a passion about moving people from A to B but didn't think about what we were doing at A and B**
 - Importance of protecting key corridors
 - WA spends \$1B p.a. on the road network
 - **Challenges of escalating construction costs, and large distances with small population base**
 - We need to embrace ITS
 - Intermodalities are important

Official Opening and Keynote

- Agu Kantsler, Woodside Petroleum
 - **Overview of the business and its incredible scale of operation**
 - New oil rig built to withstand the 5,000yr storm
 - **How to service the North West projects by road from Perth (1,500km) and Darwin**
 - 100,000 truckloads of soil for Pluto project
 - **Skilled workers hard to attract and retain**
 - **Community infrastructure limited and ageing**
 - Traffic jams into Karatha in the p.m. peak hour
 - Need straight, 20m wide roads to transport infrastructure

Invited Papers: Making Connections

- Menno Hennevel, Commissioner MRWA
 - Need transport infrastructure that can serve resources sector
 - **Transport value adds 25% to the WA GSP**
 - 44% growth over past 15 years, expected to rise
 - **"Cashed up Bogans" (CUBs) with 800 veh per 1000 popln**
 - **Strong focus on leadership and relationships in 2K 12 Strategic Plan**
 - **Smarter Connections getting more out of existing network including ITS**
 - **Safer Connections including Towards Vision Zero**
 - Manifold and ubiquitous transport challenges

Invited Papers: Making Connections

- Peter Martinovich, Director Rail, PTA WA
 - **Perth has high private car commuting and low urban density – due to land use not poor PT**
 - Project success relies on reducing risk of scope creep and high cooperation between agencies
 - **Mass rail transit has proven successful here because of stations as focal points, park & ride lots increasing catchments**
 - **Seattle and LA looking to Perth for how to add a rail line through middle of freeway corridor**
 - Each project is a prototype. Need to allow for innovation in planning
 - **Community consultation: need to effectively articulate case**

Invited Papers: Making Connections

- Abra de Klerk, Maunsell Australia
 - **Perth Airport is strategically located** in the middle of narrow, triangular catchment
 - **Incredibly high trending in domestic, GA and charter since 2002**
 - Perth well located for the "Century of Asia"
 - WA outperforms in all factors affecting aviation
 - Challenges in understanding and meeting airlines' wishes and needs
 - **Poor ground public transport is a problem**
 - **Important that regional ground transport network improvements take into account airport masterplanning**

Session 3: Public Transport

- Julian Laufer, PTV Asia Pacific
 - **Provided insight into ped simulation modelling capabilities** just being released
 - **Introduced to the “social force” model** which takes an area rather than link based approach
 - North Melbourne Station provided a good example
 - **Rather true-to-life simulation**

Session 3: Public Transport

- Roger Green, SKM
 - **Provided insight into a stadium management plan for Skill Stadium on the Gold Coast**
 - **Key challenges to overcome Gold Coast’s car culture, media scepticism** over 80% non car target
 - Strategies for car parking, PT, consultation, traffic and ped management
 - **Innovative solution that has an event bus interchange doubling as a commuter park and ride**
 - Ended up with almost 90% non private car mode share

Session 3: Public Transport

- Mark Burgess, PTA WA
 - Reminded us that PT is not just for those with no choice, but is essential for future of travel
 - **Perth demonstrating strong PT growth since 1992**
 - **Transit Priority is positive discrimination.**
 - Reminded us of the issues of on-street parking, “smelly bus” syndrome (but this is changing)
 - **Highlighted the need for a NE corridor in Perth, either Bus or LRT**

Session 3: Public Transport

- Elisabeth McGregor, PB
 - Advised us that Melbourne is also growing at 1,000 popln per week
 - **Fastest growth in Melbourne is on urban fringe, having high car ownership, poor PT**
 - Described key objectives of bus network planning principles
 - **Early introduction of services to establish good travel patterns**
 - Local Melbourne examples of route planning early in overall planning process

Session 4: Congestion Management

- Jack Mazer, Barrier Systems Inc.
 - Highlighted worldwide problem and cost of congestion
 - **Contraflow redistributes traffic by using underutilised road**
 - Some contraflow lanes with no barrier have had safety problems (Golden Gate Bridge)
 - Moveable barrier machine introduced, which can operate at 11km/h
 - **Highlighted impressive results using moveable barrier managed lanes**
 - Can significantly improve bus and HOV travel times
 - **System works well in tidal situations, including bridges and protected work zones**

Session 4: Congestion Management

- Sandra Lennie, Main Roads Queensland
 - **Guided us on nature of Variable Speed Limits and where they are appropriate**
 - Described types of deployments and signs
 - **Covered best practice and results including use for:**
 - safety (can be substantial),
 - efficiency (limited),
 - Environmental (moderate)
 - **Interesting that drivers are supportive**
 - Complementary explanatory VMS would be useful

Session 4: Congestion Management

- Peter Bourlotos and Josephine Neal (SKM)
 - **Described inception and purpose of Melbourne HOV project. Eastern Fwy, Hoddle Street**
 - Literature review found mixed results in effectiveness
 - Discussed why enforcement was possible on Fwy but not the Arterial
 - **Benefits based on analysis of person flow:**
 - **Noteable for Freeway**
 - **Less compliance, eligible use on Arterial due to a range of factors – bus passengers not considered**

Session 4: Congestion Management

- John Gottler, Connell Wagner
 - Reminded us of the purpose of transport infrastructure
 - **Case study of the first signalised roundabout in NZ at SH20 / Hillsborough**
 - Addressed concerns of User, Safety, Capacity
 - **Demonstrated that Transit NZ was happy with experience and is confidently adding this treatment to its toolkit**

Session 5: Urban Design, Transport and Other

- Louise Round, Connell Wagner
 - **Traffic plan for 2 highrise developments in Leederville Town Centre, Perth (an urban village)**
 - Presented the cycle of evolution of the Urban Activity System over time
 - **Want to retain travel behaviour of 18-24 yr olds once they get older**
 - **Sell apartments to those without a car**

Session 5: Urban Design, Transport and Other

- Craig Wooldridge, MRWA
 - **Staffing and training issues incl. retirement of baby boomers, graduate attrition, work/life balance, pay and relativities**
 - **A way forward offered including “Traffic Engineering Associate” scheme for TAFE grads and mature agers**
 - Strongly supported by several agencies and organisations

Session 5: Urban Design, Transport and Other

- Brian McMahon, PB
 - **Sustainable transport plan for Harvard’s Allston campus**
 - **Placemaking a big part of the effort**
 - Studied great streets around the world
 - **Pecking order: peds, cyclists, transit, cars**
 - Urban design rule of thumb of street width = bldg height
 - **“starchitects” took a back seat to transport planners**

Session 5: Urban Design, Transport and Other

- Heidi Lansdell, Cardno
 - **Provided a background on transit supportive homeloans available in the USA**
 - **Reduced car use allows for potential increased borrowing capacity**
 - **Reminded us of the Australian FBT rules being a disincentive to PT use**
 - **“VAMPIRE” assessment of Perth demonstrated better PT service, higher incomes closer to city as anticipated**

Session 6: Regional Transport Planning

- David Wilson, Maunsell Australia
 - **Defined the problems of “fossil powered cities” such as Sydney**
 - 20% of current rail passengers cannot board their first train
 - No integrated ticketing across modes
 - Ageing infrastructure
 - **A range of solutions were looked at**
 - GM and Toyota with their electric cars
 - **Green streets, prioritising, eventually banning unclean vehicles**
 - **Support from all 3 levels of government needed**

Session 6: Regional Transport Planning

- Ted Teo, RACV
 - **RACV research shows that most believe upgrades needed, congestion has become and is worsening in outer Melbourne**
 - **RACV's Outer Melbourne Connect campaign: land use, PT expansion, grade separations, cross town connections**
 - **Federal and private sector funding solutions targeted**

Session 6: Regional Transport Planning

- David Gray, Parramatta City Council
 - **Outlined ITP for Parramatta City Centre**
 - **Transport challenges of growth, infrastructure, congestion, one-way streets, parking**
 - Solid Objectives for an ITP
 - **Actions focussed on clean mobility, active transport, PT enhancement, city ring road, travel behaviour**

Session 7: Traffic Design and Operations

- John Venables, MRWA and Chris Paris, EDI
 - **Described a dispute over traffic light failure resulting in a fatality, highlighting the need for UPS**
 - **Specifications for UPS provided including a 4hr backup after power loss**
 - UPS replaces need for Police on points duty
 - **Trial results very successful**
 - Staged rollout in WA

Session 7: Traffic Design and Operations

- Malcolm Daff and Josephine Neal, SKM
 - **Looked at ped behaviour on mid-block signalised ped crossings**
 - **More frustration with a longer wait, but less gap acceptance**
 - **Non compliance influenced by gender, age, group size**
 - Can improve compliance by providing early green when no vehicle flow

Session 7: Traffic Design and Operations

- Douglas Lee, Townsville City Council
 - **Discussed low cost LATM installations**
 - **Although a bit confusing 4 way stops reduced speeds, volumes, crashes**
 - **Speed cushions slow cars, not HVs, not motorcycles**
 - Rubber ring roundabouts are quick, durable and cheap

Session 8: Ped, Cyclist, Universal Access

- Jason Deller, Moreton Bay Regional Council
 - **Provided a strong message on addressing road trauma in the local street context**
 - Outlined genesis of multi-agency alliance **Road Safety Partnership Project** (Moreton Bay Region)
 - **Greater consideration needed in road user behaviour and engineering at grassroots level**
 - **Road Safety Officer** position, new to Queensland
 - Fabulous response from community and stakeholders

Session 8: Ped, Cyclist, Universal Access

- Steve Fisher, Cycling Solutions
 - **Described programme for large scale delivery of bicycle training**
 - **Provided background on development of English training standards and formalising training**
 - **Highlighted the importance of involvement of schools and local authorities**

Overall

- An excellent range of topics across the field of transport planning and management
- Great dialogue through questions from the floor
- Exciting Trade Display area
- Fantastic networking opportunities
- Memorable Conference Dinner especially performances by Bill Cirocco and Peter Doupe