



Australian Government

Department of Infrastructure, Transport,  
Regional Development and Communications

## Office of Road Safety: Update Fourteen – October 2020

### National Road Safety Strategy 2021-2030 - Update

Detailed work is continuing with State and Territory Governments, the Australian Local Government Association, Austroads and other former Transport and Infrastructure Council (TIC) bodies to finalise the draft National Road Safety Strategy 2021-30.

The new Strategy is likely to take on a different format to the existing National Road Safety Strategy 2011-2020. We anticipate that the Strategy will look and feel different so that it will be more user-friendly on electronic devices.

We are seeking support and engagement well outside of the traditional government road agencies to progress road safety outcomes. The social model approach to road safety will look beyond the transport sector, beyond governments and beyond the road safety community to build wider acceptance of road safety solutions to prevent road trauma.

The Department anticipates that there will be a further opportunity to provide input into the Strategy before its final approval in early 2021.

For more information on the NRSS, please visit: [www.roadsafety.gov.au/](http://www.roadsafety.gov.au/).

### Road Safety Budget announcements

A \$2 billion Road Safety program has been announced as part of the 2020-21 Budget.

The program will apply lifesaving treatments predominantly to rural and regional roads, as well as to protect those most vulnerable in urban areas, including cyclists and pedestrians. Upgrades to regional roads are expected to include shoulder sealing and audio tactile line marking, centre line treatments, and barriers to protect against roadside hazards. In urban areas, projects will focus on greater protection and separation for vulnerable road users including pedestrians and cyclists.

The program will provide an estimated 35 per cent reduction in fatal and serious injuries across approximately 3,000 kilometres of roads. Funding will see road safety treatments roll out quickly, saving lives and reducing the number and severity of road crash injuries, being delivered in three, six-month tranches. This additional investment builds on the [\\$500 million Targeted Road Safety Works](#), announced in June.

Subject to states and territories applying for projects, work on the first tranche of road safety projects is due to start in January 2021.

A new National Road Safety Data Hub has also been announced, with \$5.5 million over four years to ensure transparent monitoring and evaluation of policies and investments in road safety. The Data Hub will support our commitment to deliver the new National Road Safety Strategy over the next decade, putting Australia on a path to achieve vision zero by 2050.

The Data Hub will generate analytical products for public access, building on the Bureau of Infrastructure and Transport Research Economics road safety statistics and dashboards. Data

required to be provided under the \$2 billion Road Safety Program will be analysed and reported on through the Data Hub. As the Data Hub is developed, a key priority will be developing a national picture of road-related trauma through collection of data from states and territories.

You can read the budget announcement from the Deputy Prime Minister here: [www.minister.infrastructure.gov.au/mccormack/media-release/budget-2020-federal-budget-prioritises-life-saving-road-safety-investments](http://www.minister.infrastructure.gov.au/mccormack/media-release/budget-2020-federal-budget-prioritises-life-saving-road-safety-investments)

## Consultation on crash-reducing brake technology for light vehicles

The Australian Government has released a Regulation Impact Statement on the introduction of mandatory Autonomous Emergency Braking (AEB) systems for new light vehicles. This process will allow industry and the community to express their views on the introduction of AEB across all of the new light vehicle fleet.

AEB is currently included in the standard fit of around 66 per cent of the light vehicle fleet, up from 18 per cent in the last three years. AEB systems on light vehicles detect likely forward in-lane collisions, and provide the driver with a warning. If there is no response, AEB will apply the brakes automatically. AEB systems fitted to new light vehicles conforming to the UN regulation also include pedestrian detection.

Increasing the uptake of new vehicle safety technology such as AEB in both light and heavy vehicles will play a significant role in reducing fatal crashes and serious injuries from in-lane collisions, and is priority action 4 of the current National Road Safety Action Plan 2018-2020. Increasing the uptake of AEB in light vehicles is expected to save 586 lives and prevent 20,600 serious injuries, while increasing uptake in heavy vehicles is expected to save 78 lives and prevent 2,152 serious injuries.

Consultation will remain open until 10 December 2020. Submissions can be made by emailing [standards@infrastructure.gov.au](mailto:standards@infrastructure.gov.au). The Regulation Impact Statement is available at: [www.infrastructure.gov.au/vehicles/design/adr\\_comment.aspx](http://www.infrastructure.gov.au/vehicles/design/adr_comment.aspx).

## It's almost Yellow Ribbon National Road Safety Week 2020!

National Road Safety Week (NRSW) takes place this year between 15 – 22 November.

The week will launch on Sunday 15 November in Sydney with a socially-distanced event that will be live streamed. The week also coincides with the commemoration of United Nations World Day of Remembrance for Road Victims which will be a key theme for the night. The Australasian College of Road Safety Awards will also be held during the evening.

Each subsequent day during the week will have a specific theme attached, focusing on a vulnerable road user group. This reminds our community that everyone has a right to get home safe to their loved ones, and to ensure their safety by pledging to Drive So Others Survive. You can also keep an eye out for the lighting of significant buildings and monuments in yellow across Australia, a hallmark of National Road Safety Week.

### How to get involved

- Take an online pledge to drive safely at [www.roadsafetyweek.com.au](http://www.roadsafetyweek.com.au)
- Discuss driving safely with your family and friends
- Wear a yellow ribbon lapel badge or display a vehicle sticker available from (<https://www.roadsafetyweek.net.au/road-safety-week>)

The website also includes news and events for each state and territory, and links to the NRSW 2020 Style Guide and digital assets.

Yellow Ribbon National Road Safety Week 2020 is proudly supported by the Office of Road Safety.

For more information on the Office of Road Safety's programs, visit:

[www.officeofroadsafety.gov.au/programs](http://www.officeofroadsafety.gov.au/programs)

## SafeT360 back on the road

Following a break due to COVID-19, the Australian Trucking Association's (ATA) road safety exhibition, SafeT360 is back on the road.

Launched in 2019, SafeT360 is an interactive custom-built road safety exhibition that uses virtual reality and interactive messaging all packed into a real travelling truck and trailer. SafeT360 educates young road users about how to share the road safely with heavy vehicles by putting them in the virtual driver's seat. It is providing the hands-on experience and knowledge that is not offered by learner driver programs.

In 2019, the Australian Government provided \$400,000 (GST exclusive) in funding towards the redesign and refit of the Volvo – ATA SafeT360 Truck. The grant was allocated to the ATA to support the Government's objective to improve road safety.

For more information, visit: [www.safet360.com.au/](http://www.safet360.com.au/)

## Nominations open for the 10<sup>th</sup> Annual Australian Road Safety Foundation Awards 2020

Nominations are now open for the [Australian Road Safety Foundation's](http://www.arsf.com.au/arsa/) 10th Annual Australian Road Safety Awards. The awards are designed to recognise the achievements of leading road safety stakeholders and provide an opportunity to formally acknowledge their commitment to improving road safety outcomes.

Nominations cover the following categories:

- Community Programs Award
- Indigenous Programs Award
- School Programs Award
- Local Government Programs Award
- Corporate Fleet Safety Programs Award
- State Government Programs Award
- Innovation Programs Award
- Technology Programs Award

Nominations close on 1 December 2020. To find out more, visit: [www.arsf.com.au/arsa/](http://www.arsf.com.au/arsa/)

## National Safe Work Month

During October, workplaces have been celebrating National Safe Work Month. National Safe Work Month is a time to make your commitment to improving safety and health in your workplace.

Workplace-related road trauma affects many thousands of people each year and there are grave personal impacts for those involved. Vehicle use in road traffic is the most significant contributor to

workplace traumatic injury in Australia. In 2019, 43 per cent of all reported work-related fatalities related to vehicles (79 fatalities).

It is important that organisations are aware of their responsibilities in relation to vehicles and road safety. National Safe Work Month encourages businesses, employers and workers to commit to building safe and healthy workplaces for all Australians by taking actions and setting policies that embed safety in workplace culture.

As organisations mature in their safety culture we hope to see road safety flowing down through employers to individuals. These actions support the social model in delivering road safety outcomes, as we know the influence of the workplace is a powerful one.

To find out how you can promote Work Health and Safety month, including resources and themes, visit: <https://www.safeworkaustralia.gov.au/national-safe-work-month>.

To view Safe Work Australia's latest work-related traumatic injury fatalities data, visit: <https://www.safeworkaustralia.gov.au/book/work-related-injury-fatalities-key-whs-statistics-australia-2020>.

## Road Safety Data

The Bureau of Infrastructure and Transport Research Economics has released its [September 2020 fatality figures](#). There were 81 road deaths during the month of September 2020. The current figure is 15.4 per cent lower than the average for September over the previous five years.

For more information on road safety statistics, visit: <https://www.bitre.gov.au/statistics/safety>

## Getting in touch

If you would like to get in touch with the Office of Road Safety, please email us on the link below or go to our website;

[officeofroadsafety@infrastructure.gov.au](mailto:officeofroadsafety@infrastructure.gov.au)

[www.officeofroadsafety.gov.au/](http://www.officeofroadsafety.gov.au/)