

Minutes of the 86th FNQROC Regional Roads and Transport Group

Meeting No	86
Meeting Name	FNQ Regional Roads and Transport Group
Date	2 December 2025
Time	9:00am – 10:00am
Venue	Civic Reception Room, Cairns Regional Council, Spence Street, Cairns

REPRESENTATIVES

Name	Organisation
Cr Matthew Tickner	Cairns Regional Council (online)
Cr Teresa Millwood, Mayor	Cassowary Coast Regional Council
Cr Robyn Holmes, Mayor	Cook Shire Council
Cr Trevor Pickering, Mayor	Croydon Shire Council
Cr Lisa Scomazzon, Mayor	Douglas Shire Council
Cr Barry Hughes (Chair), Mayor	Etheridge Shire Council
Cr Mladen Bosnic	Mareeba Shire Council
Cr Annette Haydon	Tablelands Regional Council
Cr Alister Gibson, Mayor	Wujal Wujal Aboriginal Shire Council
Cr Daryl Sexton, Mayor	Yarrabah Aboriginal Shire Council
Mr Daryl Jones	Dept of Transport and Main Roads (online)
Amanda Hancock (Coordinator)	FNQROC

OBSERVERS

Name	Organisation
Brian Joiner	Cook Shire Council
Jacqui Creswell	Croydon Shire Council
Scott Osman	Douglas Shire Council

Ken Timms	Etheridge Shire Council
Peter Franks	Mareeba Shire Council
Michael Miller	Yarrabah Aboriginal Shire Council
John Gillespie	Dept of Transport & Main Roads
Jassica Crago	Dept of Transport & Main Roads
Darlene Irvine	FNQROC

APOLOGIES

Name	Organisation
Ken Gouldthorpe	Cairns Regional Council
Mark Wuth	Cairns Regional Council
Andrew Graffen	Cassowary Coast Regional Council
Graham King	Wujal Wujal Aboriginal Shire Council
Ross Hodgman	Dept of Transport and Main Roads
Jarrold Hellmuth	LGAQ

525. INTRODUCTION

The meeting commenced at 9:00am.

Mayor Hughes, Etheridge Shire Council welcomed all attendees to the RRTG meeting.

526. ELECTION OF CHAIR

A Hancock declared all positions vacant and called for nominations for the position of Chair.

Cr Barry Hughes, Etheridge Shire Council

Nominated by Cr Annette Hayden

Second: Cr Trevor Pickering

Cr Barry Hughes accepted the nomination for Chair.

There being no further nominations, Cr Hughes was declared elected as Chair of the FNQ RRTG.

CARRIED

527. ELECTION OF DEPUTY

A Hancock declared all positions vacant and called for nominations for the position of Deputy Chair.

Cr Matthew Tickner, Cairns Regional Council

Nominated by Cr Barry Hughes

Second: Cr Trevor Pickering

Cr Matthew Tickner accepted the nomination for Deputy Chair.

There being no further nominations, Cr Tickner was declared elected as Deputy Chair of the FNQ RRTG.

CARRIED

528. CONFIRMATION OF PREVIOUS MINUTES

Minutes of Meeting No. 85 held on 5 June 2025.

Motion

"That the minutes of the 85th FNQ Regional Roads and Transport Group Meeting held on 5 June 2025 are confirmed."

MOVED: Cr Lisa Scomazzon

SECOND: Cr Teresa Millwood

CARRIED

529. BUSINESS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MEETING

Action Item No.	ACTION	Responsible Person(s)	Status
503.1	All members of the RRTG and their nominated representatives to be provided with access to the new TIDS Program Management Tool and an overview of the system unless requested otherwise.	Ms. Hancock, FNQROC	Complete
521.1	Mr. Gillespie, TMR to investigate wash out of the road shoulder on the Gulf Development Road on the opposite side of the road to the section where crash cluster details were previously provided to TMR and report back to Cr. Evans.	Mr. Gillespie, TMR	Cr Evans has been informed of progress. Croydon Shire Council Works Manager and TMR are reviewing options to ascertain best approach with limited RMPC funding currently available. Fills quantities required are being assessed by Croydon Works Manager.
529.1	Mr. Jones, TMR to respond to the letter from Port Douglas Tourist Industry regarding night closures on the Captain Cook Highway and quantify the impact of any proposed changes on productivity and completion of the works.	Mr. Jones, TMR	I am pleased to advise we have worked with contractors to avoid any scheduled night closures on Captain Cook Highway for the 2025 calendar year. Over the last month some night works with extended holds (up to 30 minutes) have been in place as an alternative to avoid full road closures where the scope of works has required less traffic movements. Night closures may still be required during the forward program of works. We will continue to work with contractors to review the need for night closures and explore alternatives

			with consideration to safety, and balancing road user access with progress of works.
533.1	Mr. Jones, TMR to investigate reported holes on sealed sections heading North on the PDR and provide an update regarding repair status.	Mr. Jones, TMR	Potholes have been filled and subsequent road inspections conducted. Notifications of road defects should be directed through TMR's TMC to ensure they are logged and allocated and can be followed up.

530. NOTING OF TECHNICAL COMMITTEE MINUTES

Minutes of Technical Committee Meeting No. 140 – 25 July 2025

Minutes of Technical Committee Meeting No. 141 – 15 October 2025

Minutes of Technical Committee Meeting No. 142 – 14 November 2025

Recommendations to the RRTG

Recommended Motions from the RRTG TC Meeting No. 141 – 15 October 2025

Motion

“That the RRTG endorse the proposed amended wording below to the FNQ Works Program – Development & Management Process regarding use of TIDS funding on State-Controlled roads.”

(Additional wording in blue)

CONSIDERATIONS paragraph (page 2-3) to read:

The following are factors that need to be taken into consideration.

- Funding allocations must adhere to TIDS Policy Page 3 of 7
- 100% expenditure level target for TIDS Cost overruns are funded 100% by each member RRTG
- FNQ RRTG's Planning & Design Policy – Design to be complete by the last meeting of the financial year prior to year of commencement.
- Maximum of 20% of TIDS can be allocated to Non LRRS annually.
- Maximum of 10% of TIDS can be allocated to State LRRS if funding is matched.
- **This excludes projects initiated by Local Government that involve:**
 - *New infrastructure within the State-controlled corridor where Local Government is solely responsible for funding construction as per the TMR/Local Government Cost Sharing Arrangement.*
 - *Renewal of existing infrastructure within the State-controlled corridor where Local Government is solely responsible for funding the replacement and maintenance, as per the TMR/Local Government Cost Sharing Arrangement.*

MOVED: Cr Barry Hughes

SECOND: Cr Robyn Holmes

CARRIED

Motion

"That the RRTG endorse the updated Far North Queensland Regional Roads and Transport Group Constitution."

MOVED: Cr Trevor Pickering

SECOND: Cr Lisa Scomazzon

CARRIED

Recommended Motions from the RRTG TC Meeting. No 142 – 14 November 2025

Motion

"That the RRTG endorse the updated 2025/26 - 2027/28 Works Program"

#7596796

MOVED: Cr Lisa Scomazzon

SECOND: Cr Robyn Holmes

CARRIED

Motion

"That State funding for Asset Condition Assessments on Local Government LRRS roads to be raised with the RRTG to potentially progress advocacy".

It was agreed that advocacy should be progressed by the RRTG TC.

ACTION ITEM 530.1 RRTG TC to progress advocacy for State funding for Asset Condition Assessments on Local Government LRRS roads.

531. PROGRAM UPDATE – MR DARRYL JONES, DISTRICT DIRECTOR (FAR NORTH), TMR

TIDS Program

- FNQ TIDS expenditure as at the end of November 2025 is currently 14% spent which is below the state average of 25%.
- With current weather events and the traditional wet season, councils are reminded to inform Amanda Hancock as soon as possible if projects are unable to be delivered to enable sufficient time to reallocate funds to ensure full expenditure of program by June 30.

Tropical Cyclone Jasper Reconstruction Works – Far North District

Holiday season works shut down

- We understand road users will travel extensively over the holiday season and are reducing traffic control measures as much as safely possible.
- Works will shut down from 19 December 2025 and recommence on 5 January 2026.
- Where safe to do so, two-way traffic flow will be temporarily reinstated at sites over the holiday season shut down period, subject to weather.
- Reduced speed limits will be in place.
- There will be two single lane closures on Captain Cook Highway and one single lane closure on Kuranda Range Road during the shut down period.
- Single lane traffic management will be reimplemented as work recommences from 5 January 2026.

- Overall, 20 sites have been completed on the Kennedy Highway (Kuranda Range Road) since reconstruction work began in November 2024.
- An overview of the works on the Captain Cook Highway, Palmerston Highway and Mossman Daintree River was also provided.

Email from Darryl Jones with detailed update circulated with the minutes.

532. ROADS AND TRANSPORT ALLIANCE UPDATE – JESSICA CRAGO, PRINCIPAL ADVISOR, LG PARTNERSHIPS DTMR

Roads and Transport Alliance (RTA) TIDS

- Statewide TIDS expenditure as at 30 November is at 25% (up from 18% last month).
- The second quarter expenditure reports for 2025-26 will be issued in early January. Please ensure any eligible expenditure is submitted to your local TMR district prior to end of month.
- TIDS funding allocations have been adjusted following the 2025 review of local government road length data.
- An email was sent to RRTG and TC Chairs and Technical Coordinators 25 November, sharing the new allocations.
- As a priority, we ask all Technical Coordinators and RRTG Technical Committees to revise their programs 2026-27 works program accordingly and advise TMR by the end of February 2026 to align with QTRIP development and publication timeframes. Changes to years post 2026-27 should be submitted to TMR before the start of next financial year.

Statewide Capability Fund (SCDF)

- RRTGs are encouraged to apply now for capability development & training funded from the 2025-26 allocation.
- Applications should be submitted by end of February 2026.
- Of the \$600,000 available in 2025-26, approx. \$283,000 has been allocated as of 30 October 2025.
- The application form, program guidelines and 2025-26 SCDF Program are available on the [RTA SharePoint Portal](#).

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander TIDS

- Each year, TMR invites eligible councils to submit applications for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander TIDS funding, which are then assessed and prioritised according to program criteria.
- Applications for 2026-27: Nominations were sent to councils mid-November 2025 and will close 13 February 2026.

Annual report

- Thank you to councils that provided contributions to the Roads and Transport Alliance Annual Progress Report.

533. JOINT PURCHASING & RESOURCE SHARING

Nil.

534. ROAD SAFETY

Mayor Scomazzon raised a question regarding the rail tracks on Myola Road. TMR confirmed that they are talking to the administrator regarding removal of the tracks and bins.

Mayor Millwood raised the suspension bridge at Mena Creek. TMR advised that foot traffic was going across the bridge and the speed limit had been reduced to 20kmph. There are no plans to replace the bridge and it cannot be widened due to its age.

535. GENERAL BUSINESS

Nil.

536. NEXT TECHNICAL COMMITTEE MEETING NO. 143

Thursday 29 January 2026 (Cairns)

537. NEXT FNQR RRTG MEETING NO. 87

Thursday 12 February 2026 (Cairns)

There being no further business the Chair declared the meeting closed at: 9:50am

Minutes prepared by FNQOC Regional Strategic Infrastructure Coordinator

AGREED ACTION ITEMS

2 December 2025

Action Item No.	ACTION	Responsible Person(s)
530	RRTG TC to progress advocacy for State funding for Asset Condition Assessments on Local Government LRRS roads.	RRTG TC