

Strategic Local Government Asset Assessment Project (SLGAAP)

Background

In their role as road owners, local government road managers are responsible for providing access decisions for heavy vehicles to travel on the road network. As there are more than 24,000¹ bridges and culverts on local government owned roads, road managers often need to assess whether specific heavy vehicle combinations can safely travel over these structures.

What is SLGAAP?

The Strategic Local Government Asset Assessment Project (SLGAAP) commenced in late 2019, with the Australian Government providing the NHVR with \$7.96 million in grant funding over two years.

The funding was provided to assist local government road managers across Australia by undertaking heavy vehicle assessments of on-road assets, such as bridges and culverts.

During SLGAAP Phase 1, key project activities included:

- completing 394 bridge and culvert assessments and related engineering reports
- assessing up to 112 vehicle configurations across selected assets
- working with 74 councils to better understand their asset capacity
- developing a prototype Asset Rapid Assessment Tool (ARAT)
- developing of resources for road managers including Asset Assessment Framework
- updating data for more than 2000 assets in the NHVR Portal Assets Module.

The success of SLGAAP Phase 1 demonstrated an ongoing need for bridge and culvert assessments to support road managers in access decision making.

As a result, the Australian Government has provided an additional \$12 million to fund SLGAAP for another three years.

The second phase of the project will concentrate on:

- identifying assets on key routes for whole-of-journey network improvement
- undertaking targeted asset assessments
- developing a framework for bridge family assessment
- further development of the centralised asset information system and ARAT in the NHVR Portal
- delivering additional road manager education and training.

When will the project be delivered?

SLGAAP is delivered in a phased approach. Phase 2 is now underway and will be delivered by the end of 2024.



¹ 2021 National State of the Assets Report, ALGA

How to nominate an asset?

Under SLGAAP Phase 2, rounds of asset nominations will be open at various intervals during the three-year delivery period.

Assets for assessment will be prioritised from the initial 1000 assets already nominated during the first phase of the project. There will continue to be opportunities for road managers to self-nominate assets of significance in future rounds.

How are assets selected for assessment?

To manage the high volume of local government-controlled bridges and major culverts being nominated for assessment, SLGAAP applies a selection criteria which considers the following:



Who will benefit from the project?

This project will increase the available information about local government road assets, benefiting both road managers and the heavy vehicle industry by:

- Improving capability of local government road managers to understand their asset capacity and assess heavy vehicle access applications across a range of vehicle configurations
- Improving capability of heavy vehicle operators to consider the safety requirements for their journey in relation to bridges and culverts.

How to get involved?

We are interested to hear from both road managers and industry to find out about bridge and culvert access issues, unknown asset capacity and improved connectivity to the state road network.

Please visit the SLGAAP website to find out how to get involved in the project.

<https://nhvr.engagementhub.com.au/>



For more information:

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