

Traffic Management Reform program

What is changing about how traffic management activities are delivered?

Information update
October 2022

What is the Traffic Management Reform (TMR) program?

There is an unprecedented amount of construction taking place across the state. Making sure these projects are carried out in a safe manner is just as important as what we are building, repairing or maintaining.

That's why the Department of Transport (DoT) is delivering the TMR program to transform the traffic management industry. It provides the extra support needed to promote safety on the road network and reduce unnecessary congestion and delays around worksites.

The TMR program is supported by the \$340 million Smarter Roads program, which is rolling out improvements across the network to make journeys smoother, smarter and safer. Both programs are working together to keep people and goods moving on the road network.



It is made up of eight initiatives that have been designed to create a more consistent and safety-focused approach to how traffic management activities are planned and delivered:

Initiatives impacting permit application processing and approvals (planning support)

- Centralisation of Memorandum of Authorisation (MoA) permit processing (**Started 14 March 2022**)
- Road Access Permits Portal (**Launched on 17 October 2022**)
- Consent process harmonisation (**to be launched in late 2022**)
- MoA charging (**TBC**)

Initiatives impacting qualifications, training and enforcement (delivery support)

- Introduction of traffic management accreditation program (Accreditation) (**Started 1 February 2022**)
- Adoption of the Austroads Guideline to Temporary Traffic Management (AGTTM) to update the current *Code of Practice for Worksite Safety – Traffic Management* (**to be introduced in the second half of 2022**)
- Nationally consistent training methods and materials (traffic management training model) (**to be introduced in the second half of 2022**)
- Surveillance Framework and end-to-end processes (**to be introduced in the second half of 2022**)

For more information about each initiative, visit vicroads.vic.gov.au/tmr

How will these initiatives change how traffic management activities are delivered?

DoT is supporting the traffic management industry to continue delivering their works in a safe manner and in compliance with the relevant acts and regulations.

The TMR program includes four initiatives that work together to update the code of practice and introduce a new training model and Accreditation program:

1. DoT is **adopting the AGTMM** and updating the current *Road Management Act 2004 (Code of Practice for Worksite Safety – Traffic Management)* to align with the national approach. The updated code of practice will retain the current measures that preserve high safety standards and will be simplified so it is easier to understand obligations and requirements.
2. This will then require updating **traffic management training model** and introducing the **Accreditation program** so the new code of practice can be fully reflected in how workers are trained and how companies are approved to work on the road network.
3. Once there is a consistent approach to traffic management training and working on the road network, the **Surveillance Framework and end-to-end processes** will be put in place to make sure that any traffic management companies or workers who are not compliant with regulations and standards can be held accountable in a fair and reasonable manner.

These initiatives create a more consistent approach to how traffic management activities are delivered across Victoria, keeping the safety of workers, road users and local communities as the top priority. It will also help professionalise the industry and put more structure and guidance around the safety requirements and expectations.

Why are we making these changes?

The traffic management industry plays a pivotal role in establishing work zones that prioritise the safety of workers, road users and pedestrians, as well as comply to regulations. This is particularly important as more Victorians return to the road network and traffic around worksites gets busier again.

The initiatives under the TMR program that support the delivery of traffic management activities will have widespread benefits for traffic management workers, road users and local communities:

- The new code of practice will provide the guidance and safety standards needed to maintain and prioritise safety on all road worksites across Victoria.
- The new training model means that all traffic management workers will receive the same training and evaluation across all Registered Training Organisations, reflecting the new code of practice and safety expectations.
- The new Accreditation program will ensure only those companies with suitable training, experience and a good

safety record will be accredited to manage traffic on the road network.

- Where notices of non-compliance are issued to companies, the Surveillance Framework and end-to-end processes will give DoT capability to suspend, downgrade or cancel a company's Accreditation, as well as fine or prosecute them.

This will lead to better safety outcomes and a more safety conscious traffic management industry.

How is the traffic management industry being supported to make these changes?

DoT will work closely with the traffic management industry to make sure they have the support and guidance needed to incorporate these new operational requirements into their day-to-day activities. This includes:

- The updated code of practice will be released with supporting materials to explain the difference between the updated and previous versions. The traffic management industry will have until early 2023 to transition to the new code of practice and incorporate it into their day-to-day activities before it takes effect.
- The Accreditation application form will be released with a guideline that explains the Accreditation program and how to apply. Prequalified traffic management companies have received temporary Accreditation status until 31 January 2023 to give them 12 months to formally apply for Accreditation. Once the prequalification scheme closes on 1 February 2023, only accredited traffic management companies will be able to work on the DoT managed road network, bid for DoT work or apply for DoT issued Memorandum of Authorisation (MoA) permits.
- DoT will work with Registered Training Organisations to introduce the new training model. While new traffic management workers will be required to take the updated training courses, current workers will take them as their qualifications expire over the next three years.
- There will be opportunities to meet with members of the TMR program team so traffic management companies can ask questions and find out more about the delivery initiatives.
- Updated information will be available on the VicRoads website: vicroads.vic.gov.au/tmr

Find out more

Find more about the TMR program and the support available to traffic management companies and workers by visiting vicroads.vic.gov.au/tmr. You can also sign up to our newsletter to get regular updates on progress and as more support materials and opportunities are available.

If you have feedback on other ways DoT can support the traffic management industry as we deliver the TMR program, want to ask a question or need further information, please contact tmr.support@transport.vic.gov.au