

Traffic Management Reform program

What is changing about how traffic management activities are planned?

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 mid-October 2022**)
- MoA charging (**TBC**)

Initiatives impacting qualifications, training and enforcement (delivery support)

- Introduction of traffic management Accreditation program (**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 (**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 planned?

DoT is supporting the traffic management industry by improving planning processes to make sure that traffic management activities can continue to be planned in a way that prioritise safety and making it easier to do business with DoT.

There are four initiatives that work together to upgrade our IT systems and permit application processes so that companies can apply, monitor and receive approved applications to carry out traffic management activities quicker and more easily:

1. Under the **'Centralisation of MoA permit processing'** initiative, all metropolitan and regional MoA permits will be processed by the same team so the application process and information requirements will be the same across the state.
2. Once all MoAs permits are processed by one team, further process streamlining will be carried out under the **'Consent process harmonisation'** initiative. This involves aligning the MoA and Consent for working in the road reserve (consent) permit authorisation processes so traffic management companies have a consistent process to follow.
3. When the MoA and consent permit authorisation processes are aligned, the new **Road Access Permits Portal** will allow traffic management companies to apply for these permits online. They will follow the same application process for both permits, save time by uploading their request directly into the system and be able to track the status of their permit through a personalised dashboard.
4. Once the **Road Access Permits Portal** is implemented, a new **MoA charge** for processing permits may be introduced in the future to make sure that traffic management companies are only applying for permits that they are going to use. This makes sure there is an accurate view of all the works taking place on the road network at any point in time.

Streamlining how the traffic management industry works with DoT means that the traffic management industry will have a better understanding of the time it takes to process a permit application and what information they need to provide to demonstrate how safety is being prioritised. This will allow them to move from the planning to delivery phase faster and with more certainty.

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.

There is an unprecedented amount of construction, maintenance and repairing works taking place on the road network across the state so it is important to make sure that these are carried out in a safe manner.

Providing efficient and clear MoA and consent permit approval processes, systems and supports is crucial to making sure that any traffic management activities continue to be planned in a way that prioritise safety.

It creates a consistent approach to planning safe traffic management activities across Victoria and helps road users understand how to navigate worksites in a safe and consistent manner.

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 initiatives into their day-to-day activities. This includes:

- Progressively rolling out the TMR program to give the traffic management industry time to prepare for the new ways of working
- Updating permit application forms and information on how to apply for permits, approval timings and key contact lists
- Creating how to guides and training materials for the Road Access Permits Portal.

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