

Practitioners Guideline: Low-cost road safety improvements for rural Local Government roads in WA

Reference: 2022-013 LG TRRIP 01 Published: 22/06/2023

The practitioners guideline is a guide for practitioners to use in selection and delivery considerations of low-cost safety treatments. The practitioners guideline provides treatment selection and hierarchy, design and construction guidance, case studies, and examples of what to consider in the implementation of low-cost road safety improvements.



Background

Generic guidance on the design of low-cost road safety improvements is available in the Austroads Guide to Road Design and the MRWA Supplement as well as other guidance documents, but little context-specific guidance exists to support the implementation of low-cost road safety improvements on rural Local Government roads in Western Australia.

Based on the availability of materials and capacity within the organisation, Local Governments could benefit from guidance on the relative benefits, selection, and implementation of low-cost road safety improvements.

Approach

- Review of current best practice for low-cost rural Road Safety treatments suitable to Local Government.
- Develop a list of suitable treatment types to advise Local Government decision making.
- Undertake consultation with Local Governments for information on successful implementation of relevant treatment.
- Further review of literature to extract required level needed for each treatment.
- Information collected from Local Government consultation and review of literature used to develop a draft practitioners guideline.

	While there is guidance available for low-cost road safety treatments, it is often not specific to WA's local road context.
	As low cost safety treatments are implemented it is expected that there will be a reduction in the risk of crashes and fatalities. By utilising this guideline and other tools Western Australia will move closer to its collective target of reducing fatal and serious injury crashes by 50 to 70% by 2030.

Treatment type example: Speed limit review and zoning



Source: WALGA

Why is a practitioners guideline needed?

By providing guidance on relevant treatment types for rural roads, Local Governments will be better equipped to identify and implement the most appropriate and cost-effective solutions to improve road safety on their local road networks. This will not only reduce the risk of crashes and fatalities but will also create a safer and more comfortable road environment for all road users.