The Fair Go For Our Roads campaign is an initiative of the Southern Tasmanian Councils Authority (STCA) and is calling on both major political parties to commit to the priority road projects in Southern Tasmania before this year’s federal election.

Chair of the STCA, Lord Mayor of Hobart Ald Rob Valentine, said that the campaign shows that the Southern Tasmania community is united in identifying the priority road projects in the region. “This is the first time the 12 STCA members have joined together in a public campaign for improved road funding in our region,” Ald Valentine said.

“Local road infrastructure is an extremely important issue for this region and our councils are united in urging our federal parliamentarians to recognise the urgent need for a significant investment in improving the major Highways of Southern Tasmania.”

The Fair Go For Our Roads campaign is calling on both parties to commit to funding long overdue improvements of the northern approaches to Hobart, including a new bypass of Brighton, Pontville and Bagdad, as well as an upgraded Bridgewater Bridge. The campaign is also seeking an extension of the AusLink corridor in Tasmania to include the Brooker Highway into Hobart and the Tasman Highway to the Hobart Airport. Currently the AusLink Corridor in Tasmania extends from Burnie to Launceston, up to Bell Bay and down the Midland Highway before stopping at Granton on Hobart’s northern outskirts. Tasmania is the only state where the AusLink Network does not extend to the Capital City’s, port and airport.

The STCA members participating in the Fair Go For Our Roads campaign are Brighton, Central Highlands, Clarence, Derwent Valley, Glamorgan Spring Bay, Glenorchy, Hobart, Huon Valley, Kingborough, Sorell, Southern Midlands and Tasman.

For further information, go to http://stca.tas.gov.au/?p=35.

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New Era for State Road Safety

The State Government welcomed the passing of legislation in July that will allow a road safety levy to help fund initiatives in the new Tasmanian Road Safety Strategy.

The $20 levy, earmarked for road safety initiatives, will be applied to annual registration fees for five years, commencing 1 December 2007. The related Action Plan will support four key strategic directions – safer travel speeds, best practice infrastructure, increased safety for young road users and enhanced vehicle safety.

The program has been developed in consultation with road safety experts, and has taken into account the priorities of the Tasmanian community and road crash statistics.
Pavements Industry Conference

If you are involved in the design, construction, maintenance or supply of asphalt or bituminous sealed pavements, don’t miss the 2007 Australian Asphalt Pavement Association (AAPA) Pavements Industry Conference, to be held in Sydney from 21-24 October.

Held every two years by the Australian Asphalt Pavement Association, the conference will feature eminent presenters from Australia and around the world, including many invited key speakers. The conference’s opening address will be given by Leslie Wielinga, Chief Executive Officer of the New South Wales Roads and Traffic Authority. International speakers include:

- Greg Renegar, Chief Engineer, Astec Inc, Chattanooga, Tennessee, USA.
- Grant Bosma, Fulton Hogan Limited, New Zealand
- Trevor Distin, CEO, Southern African Bitumen Association (SABITA)
- Keith Davidson, McAsphalt Engineering Services. Ontario, Canada

A balanced technical program, supplemented by a relevant exhibition, will make this conference the highlight of this year’s flexible pavements calendar. Please phone (03) 8534 5021, or visit the conference website www.halledit.com.au/conferences/aapa for further information.

Best Practice in Traffic Incident Management

Austroads have implemented an Improving Traffic Incident Management project involving a review of traffic incident management in major urban regions across Australia and New Zealand.

This report provides a brief overview of all aspects of traffic incident management, including planning, institutional issues, evaluation and performance review, and capability development. It also addresses operational aspects including detection, verification, response, site management, investigation and clearance, traffic management and traveller information, and identifies recommended practice that may be suitable for wider application. For further details, visit the Austroads website at www.austroads.com.au.

Road Research Register

A road research register has been developed to provide a single source of reliable and up-to-date information on road research, both in progress and recently completed, within the road industry.

Details of projects being undertaken or funded by Austroads or its members and observers, will form the majority of material in the database along with Local Government and industry records.

The register will be accessible online and will aim to make researchers and practitioners aware of current research activity and provide contact details for further information. It is expected that the register will be operational by early 2008. For further details, visit www.austroads.com.au.

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