



Eric Howard has been involved in initiating, responding to and managing substantial change throughout his career.

Eric works within Australia and internationally on the assessment and strengthening of road safety management capacity within government institutions and the development of practical, effective road safety policies and strategies involving relevant stakeholders.

This follows a career at senior executive level within VicRoads as General Manager Road Safety for 7 years and in a number of local governments in inner and outer metropolitan and provincial Victoria over 25 years.

He has lead and co-authored road safety management capacity reviews in Armenia, Eastern European and South East Asian countries, and Argentina for the World Bank (2006 to 2009) and was co-author and team member for road safety reviews for the Canadian Federal and Provincial Agencies (2007) and for a peer review of Road Safety Management in Sweden (2008).

In 2008 he conducted a major review of road safety in Indonesia for AusAID to guide potential investment.

The OECD/ITF “Towards Zero” Report for which Eric was Chair, which was released in 2008 recommends significant changes in the level of long term ambition adopted by all countries, the importance of strengthening road safety management capacity, the need for a new safe system approach to road safety risk, the importance of quantified interim targets derived from agreed specific strategies and actions and steps necessary to meet the funding, management and political challenges facing governments and communities internationally in improving road safety performance.

He was team leader and principal author for the preparation of the Global Road Safety Partnership *Speed Management* Manual, published in 2008 and now being translated into a number of languages, targeting lower and middle income country policymakers, and he lead the initial workshop in Indonesia in December 2008.

His project activity includes provision of advice to road safety agencies in most Australian States.

Following his appointment in 1998 as General Manager Road Safety at VicRoads, Eric was instrumental in improving the safety outcomes on Victoria’s road network. He managed the development of **arrive alive!**, the Victorian Road Safety Strategy 2002-2007, which led to a 20% reduction in road trauma by 2007.

Eric was at the centre of the organisational arrangements for operation of government multi-agency Groups addressing road safety outcomes in Victoria. These included a Ministerial Council (3 Ministers), an Executive Group and a Management Group which all met every one to two months. He participated in all Groups and his Department provided policy input, delivery monitoring and secretariat services for the Groups. In addition, he chaired a Road Safety Reference Group made up of more than 40 stakeholder groups in the community, meeting 3 times each year.

Eric liaised closely with the Office of the Minister for Transport (Minister responsible for the Road Safety Act) on a daily basis providing proactive and reactive advice on policy, programs and publicity, in an area of intense media and public interest.

He has been responsible for introduction of the "Safe System" approach to road safety in Australia, its use as the underpinning rationale to address road safety risk and its incorporation into National Road Safety Action Plans from 2004. He has overseen policy and business case development for a broad range of specific road safety initiatives, obtaining Government endorsement for new policy positions, substantial program funding increases and legislative changes, which his team was then responsible for implementing.

Eric Howard's achievements in his 7 years in the General Manager Road Safety role have been formally recognised by the all - party Victorian Parliamentary Road Safety Committee and by the Minister for Transport in the Victorian Government.

After establishing his own consulting company, Eric was retained by the Victorian Government in 2007 to advise on the development of Victoria's current 10 year road safety strategy.

Eric was appointed as the inaugural Chief Executive of the Shire of Yarra Ranges, one of Victoria's most diverse and populated municipalities from the day of its formation from four former municipalities as part of the Victorian Government Council amalgamations in 1994.

He was Acting Chief Executive Officer (for 6 months in 1990) and Corporate Manager at the City of Melbourne during the 1990 to 1994 period of reconstruction of Councils finances and the appointment of Commissioners by the Government. Melbourne carried out competitive tendering for many services, substantially reduced staff costs and redeveloped its electoral and rating systems in that period.