

## Recycled Material Blends for Stabilisation



Australian Pavement Recycling and Stabilisation Conference

Designing for Reuse and Resilience Pullman King George Square, Brisbane • 7th August 2024



#### Presenters



#### Dr Negin Zhalehjoo

Senior Technology Leader Safer Smarter Infrastructure, Pavement Research Leadership

NTRO | ARRB



#### Meera Creagh

Principal Engineer (Pavement Rehabilitation)

Pavements, Materials and Geotechnical Engineering & Technology Branch Infrastructure Management and Delivery Division

Qld DTMR



#### Dr James Grenfell

Principal Professional Leader Sustainability and Materials Performance, Portfolio Leader - Sustainable Infrastructure Materials

NTRO | ARRB





# Using Recycled Materials in Stabilised Pavements (NACOE O24)

- Key Contributing Staff: Dr Negin Zhalehjoo (NTRO), Meera Creagh (TMR), Dr James Grenfell (NTRO), Dr Jaspreet Pooni (NTRO)
- Project Timeframe: July 2021 June 2025

#### Project Objective:

The main objective of this research project is to investigate the feasibility of the use of different recycled material blends as host materials for foamed bitumen stabilisation and cement stabilisation using a laboratory testing program and field trial.

#### Acknowledgements:

NACOE Project O24: Undertaken by NTRO | ARRB and TMR through NACOE Program TMR Bulwer Island Laboratory undertook the laboratory testing of this project





## NACOE Research Program



#### Stabilisation of Recycled Material Blends







#### Benefits of Foamed Bitumen Stabilisation (FBS) in Pavements

Creates strong and flexible pavements

Reduces moisture susceptibility and improves resilience to flooding

Can be opened early to traffic

Reduces shrinkage cracking

Environmentally-friendly & Cost-effective

Up to 100% of the existing pavements can be used – lower use of finite resources (sustainable solution)



Australian Pavement Recycling and Stabilisation Conference Designing for Reuse and Resilience Pullman King George Square, Brisbane + 7th August 2024



ABC News Floodwaters demolished pavements in Rockhampton, QLD



#### Benefits of Lightly-Bound Cemented (LBC) Materials

Low cost treatment to improve performance of unbound granular pavements

Provides granular pavements with rut resistance and resilience to flooding

Provides excellent performance when used in combination with sprayed seals and thin asphalt surfacings

LBC bases have shown good performance (no block or crocodile cracking) if appropriately designed and constructed

The cracking mechanism in LBC is by diffuse cracking and therefore is not affected by the expensive to manage block cracking problems like heavily-bound cemented materials





Australian Pavement Recycling and Stabilisation Conference Designing for Reuse and Resilience Pullman King George Square, Brisbane • 7th August 2024)



#### **Recycled Host Materials Particle Size Distribution**





- RCC: recycled crushed concrete
- o RAP: reclaimed asphalt pavement
- CB: crushed brick
- RCG: recycled crushed glass



#### Phase 1: Comprehensive Laboratory Investigation



Mixing FBS material – Wirtgen apparatus





UCS testing

Indirect tensile modulus testing





#### Unconfined Compressive Strength (UCS) Test Results – Lightly Bound









#### Indirect Tensile Modulus (ITM) Results



#### Effect of curing





**FBS Mix Design** 



## Phase 1 – Summary of Findings

- Project investigated whether different recycled blends, including RCC, RAP, RCG, and CB, were suitable host materials for both cement and foamed bitumen stabilisation.
- TMR mix design procedures were used for both stabilisation treatments to assess whether recycled materials blends could achieve conformance.
- Conforming mix designs could be achieved with both treatments using recycled host materials.





## Phase 1 – Summary of Findings

- This means recycled material blends can be used in plant-mix stabilisation and as top-up material for in-situ stabilisation.
- This will reduce the reliance on non-renewable resources and align with the broader goals of sustainability and improved resilience in road construction.
- There is an opportunity to optimise recycled blends through materials engineering expertise, tailoring grading envelopes to the stabilisation method.





## Phase 2: Field Trial – Brisbane Valley Highway

• Construction and monitoring of field trials to validate the findings and provides confidence to practitioners to increase the use of recycled materials within the pavement stabilisation sector.





Australian Pavement Recycling and Stabilisation Conference Designing for Reuse and Resilience Pullman King George Square, Brisbane - 7th August 2024

- Partnering across TMR Engineering and Technology, North Coast District and RoadTek.
- Brisbane Valley Highway Between Ipswich and Wivenhoe Dam.
- □ Moderately loaded: 4350 vehicles , 15% heavy vehicles.
- Planned second field trial (2025) (TBC): Plant mixed lightly bound material



## Phase 2: Field Trial – Brisbane Valley Highway

Scope	Constraints and Benefits
Aim • Construction process • Performance Project • 275mm in situ stabilised 100% RCC base.	<ul> <li>Manage risk to TMR</li> <li>Minimise cost impacts</li> <li>Overall sustainability goals</li> <li>Maximise opportunities</li> </ul>
Material • 100% RCC (type 2.1) lightly bound application - Commercially produced blend	



Australian Pavement Recycling and Stabilisation Conference Designing for Reuse and Resilience Pullman King George Square, Brisbane • 7th August 2024

- SEQ uses a lot of lightly bound materials

- Cementitious vs bitumen costs











Australian Pavement Recycling and Stabilisation Conference Designing for Reuse and Resilience Pullman King George Square, Brisbane • 7th August 2024 Site





#### Phase 2: Field Trial – BVH Mix design

O24 BVH UCS





Australian Pavement Recycling and Stabilisation Conference Designing for Reuse and Resilience Pullman King George Square, Brisbane - 7th August 2024

#### Phase 2: Construction of Field Trial



#### Stabilising



Stabilising



#### Field UCS tests





#### Phase 2: Construction of Field Trial



#### Stabilised 100% RCC



Australian Pavement Recycling and Stabilisation Conference Designing for Reuse and Resilience Pullman King George Square, Brisbane • 7th August 2024



**Final trim** 



Start of Final compaction with smooth drum



## Phase 2: Field Testing

#### • Subgrade

- o Classification
- o Soaked & unsoaked CBR
- o Dynamic Cone Penetrometer (DCP).
- Grading & Atterberg limits
  - o Pre & Post compaction
- Field UCSs
- Long term performance monitoring
  - o Visual inspection
  - o Asset condition data
  - o Comparison with adjacent lane
- Future Field Trials
  - o Plant mixed
  - o Subbase; improved layers



- For wider implementation, some challenges remain
  - Sourcing in-situ stabilisation sites close enough to Registered Recyclers
  - o Suitable support conditions
  - o Construction constraints around intersections
  - Education of construction crews Project Linked Training
  - o Weather
  - o Procurement requirements
  - Field testing time and distance constraints for field UCS testing



## Waste 2 Resource Strategy



#### 1. Minimise disposal to landfill



2. Achieve resource efficiency through circular economy practices



3. Facilitate market growth



4. Reduce greenhouse gas emissions from waste generation and resource use



Source: TMR.

Source: TMR.





## W2R Strategy pillars and NACOEO24

Designing for Reuse and Resilience Pullman King George Square, Brisbane • 7th August 2024

Australian Pavement Recycling and Stabilisation Conference	Source: Tr	MR. Aust <mark>Stab</mark>	4
5. Data collection and analysis – demonstrate performance			
4. Procurement – encouraging use and fostering demand			
3. Market engagement – understand processes and barriers			
2. Engagement & collaboration – ARRB; TMR E&T & Districts			
1. Specifications – already permitted			

Pavement Recycling and Stabilisation Association

PROJECT #2 OUTLINE

## Mechanical stabilisation of recycled crushed concrete with recycled crushed glass



Project initiation

Laboratory study



Field demonstration/ validation Performance monitoring

Aust Stab

Literature review

Scoping

Stakeholder consultation



## Recycled crushed concrete

- The project was partially funded by the NSW EPA under the Civil Construction Market Program.
- Project uses two recycled materials:
  - Recycled crushed concrete
  - Recycled crushed glass
- Council receives large amount of C&D waste material from its own projects.
- Processed into DGB/DGS 20 under NSW EPA Resource Recovery Order 2014, Recovered Aggregate







## Recycled crushed glass



Australian Pavement Recycling and Stabilisation Conference Designing for Reuse and Resilience Pullman King George Square, Brisbare • 7th August 2024

- Council collects approximately 8,500 tonnes of glass each year.
- Small pieces of glass are much trickier to recycle, potentially useable material that usually goes to waste.
- Potential to be incorporated into asphalt, concrete, etc.
- Great possible solution to the issue of wastage.
- Cost-effective option providing sustainable outcomes for our community.



## Gradings from materials blending

#### Grading of raw materials





- 100 % recycled crushed concrete has poor grading
- Grading improvements with increased recycled crushed glass content
- Grading improvements lead to:
  - Compaction improvements
  - Performance improvements



#### Permanent deformation testing

Assessment of granular material blends performance



Austrack (Extra-large Wheel tracker)





Sample preparation



Trafficking



#### 100% Recycled Crushed Concrete



Surface after compaction

Sealed surface after wheel tracking

Sealed surface after wheel tracking

View from the right side when unmoulding





## 70% Recycled crushed concrete – 30% Recycled crushed glass



Surface after compaction

Sealed surface after wheel tracking

Sealed surface after wheel tracking

View from the right side when unmoulding





### Permanent deformation performance

#### Rut Depth Comparison



- Samples tracked to minimum 40,000 cycles.
- Decreased rut depth seen with greater recycled crushed glass content.
- Increase recycled crushed glass content leads to improved compaction and improved rutting performance.
- All well within acceptable range.



#### Field trials







New structure – incorporating recycled materials

 The move to sustainable materials solutions for Local Government Authorities



Australian Pavement Recycling and Stabilisation Conference Designing for Reuse and Resilience Pullman King George Square, Brisbane • 7th August 2024

### Construction of field trial

Marion Street in City of Canterbury Bankstown on Sydney, NSW





Australian Pavement Recycling and Stabilisation Conference Designing for Reuse and Resilience Pullman King George Square, Brisbane • 7th August 2024



## Performance monitoring

Initial results of performance assessment





Marion St - Trial section





## Acknowledgements







Peter Stephenson, Rutuza Patil Canterbury Bankstown City Council

Paul Morassut Fulton Hogan

Funding from New South Wales EPA



