

TRANSPORT

Why Aither

Background

Services

Experience

Why Aither

Aither offers independent transport economics, policy and strategic advice underpinned by sector experts applying industry best practice appraisal techniques.



Our team includes specialist transport economists.

Our team has worked on a range of transport economics projects around Australia. We work extensively with transport planners, modellers and engineers, and understand the importance of collaboration across disciplines.



We develop custom economic modelling tools.

Our team have demonstrated experience in developing bespoke economic and financial modelling tools – using up to date and industry recognised parameters and input data. Our models are easy to understand and easy for clients to use to test changes in key parameters.



We present complex economics simply.

Our team understands that clients require rigour in the economics that underpins our analysis. However, we also understand that clients are looking for results to be presented in a simple, easy to follow format that avoids economic jargon.



We provide strategic advice that is grounded in reality.

Aither's team understands the policy and regulatory settings governing transport infrastructure in Australia. To help translate good ideas into actions, we provide strategic advice on matters that extend beyond economics.

Background

The transport sector contributed around \$72.4 billion to the Australian economy in 2013-14 which accounts for approximately 4.5 per cent of Australia's Gross Domestic Product. As Australia's freight and passenger transport task continues to rise, investing in transport infrastructure is essential to improve productivity and underpin economic growth.

The challenge is to ensure that the right investments in transport infrastructure are made, providing the community with the best value for money. This is particularly important in the context of constrained national, state and local government budgets. Economic, policy and strategic advice and appraisal is critical to inform good decision making.

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- Undertaking cost benefit analysis
- Developing business cases
- Developing and assessing infrastructure policy
- Analysing socio-economic impacts
- Analysing wider economic benefits
- Providing strategic advice on policy and regulations
- Reviewing infrastructure pricing

Selected project experience

Cost benefit analysis of proposed road upgrade: Aither staff undertook a Cost Benefit Analysis (CBA) on a range of proposed road upgrade options north of Hobart. Modelled benefits included vehicle travel time, operating cost savings and avoided external costs (greenhouse gas emission). The CBA formed part of a business case which was submitted to the Tasmanian Government for funding.

Cost benefit and economic analysis of proposed heavy vehicle bypass: Aither staff analysed and reported on the economic benefits for approximately ten heavy vehicle route bypass options in south west Queensland. The analysis considered economic benefits in the context of regional, state and national transport supply chains by modelling productivity and efficiency benefits associated with an expansion of higher productivity vehicle movements.

Business case for grade separation: Aither staff authored a full business case – including a comprehensive CBA – for a proposed road grade separation in Victoria, which met the Victorian Government’s guidelines for ‘High Value, High Risk’ investments. In 2014 the Victorian Government allocated funds to the project.

Financial modelling of freight and logistics requirements for iron ore export: Aither staff undertook financial modelling for a number of different intermodal transport options to assess the cost effectiveness of transporting iron ore from Shepparton to a number of potential ports.

Cost benefit analysis and economic impact assessment of proposed airport expansion: Aither staff undertook a CBA and economic impact assessment of a proposed airport expansion. The CBA was undertaken consistent with state and national guidelines – including Austroad’s 2012 Guide to Project Evaluation and the Australian Transport Council Guide.

Port pricing review: Aither undertook a review of port pricing arrangements at a major Western Australian port. The review included a comparison of current arrangements against best practice pricing principles and the identification of alternative approaches to funding capital improvements at publicly-owned ports.

Contact details

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