

30 September 2011

## **Redland City Council wins prestigious national safety award**

Redland City Council's vehicle fleet operations have won the prestigious National Fleet Safety award following a major overhaul of its fleet operations and safety in recent years.

The keenly contested national award from the Australasian Fleet Management Association recognised the improvements to work related road safety and procedures within Council which manages a fleet of 463 road registered vehicles including cars, trucks and machinery.

Council's multifaceted and multidisciplinary approach to improved fleet safety under the guidance of Fleet Service Manager Jon Horsey followed a near fatal accident and a comprehensive review and independent analysis of its fleet process and procedures.

Mayor Melva Hobson congratulated Council's Fleet Management team and Council employees for their contribution to the award.

"This award is a very significant achievement for Council. The efforts recognised in this award have made a very real impact on safety for employees and the wider community and reduced the costs to Council from poor safety performance."

Since the introduction of the new systems and procedures, Council has reduced at-fault crashes by 20% reversing incidents by 30% and the average cost of crashes by 51%.

Included among the procedures initiated by Council were;

- Mandatory fleet log books providing vehicle maintenance check procedures and instructions and guidance in the event of a traffic incident.
- Specific fleet safety team briefings and 'Tool Box' talks
- Inductions for all new employees and vehicle changeovers and re-assignment
- Driver assessment and education for new and high risk employees provided through specialist RACQ training and education programs.
- Engagement of registered training provider for targeted auditing as well as training and education of specific 4WD users.
- Maintenance education workshops to educate staff about changing tyres, checking fluid levels and general maintenance issues relating to better safety performance.
- Mandatory licence checks and electronic record keeping for all employees

Council is participating in a four year Fleet Safety Benchmark Project with South-East Queensland Councils and CARRS-Q aimed at developing benchmark performance indicators and informing research on driver behaviour.

Details on the award and council's submission can be viewed on the AFMA website at [www.afma.net.au](http://www.afma.net.au).