

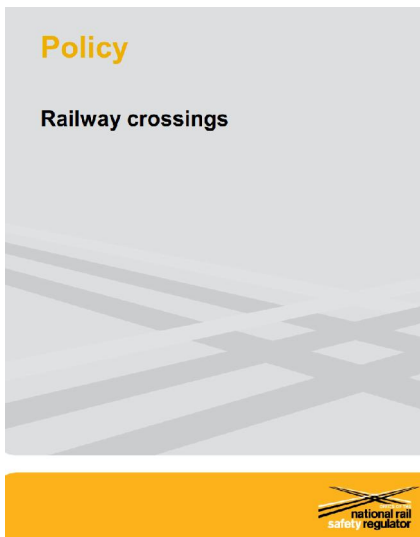


Council of Tramway Museums of Australasia Inc.

www.cotma.org.au

Memo to all COTMA Members and Delegates

Release of ONRSR's Railway Level Crossing Policy



The Office of National Rail Safety Regulator (ONRSR) has recently published a level crossing policy that may impact on Australian Tramway Museums. When the draft was released late last year, COTMA made a submission to the Regulator that the document did not take into account tramways that operated in the street environment and that the policy was onerous in relation to new tramways that operated in the streets. In the press release, ONRSR says "This policy applies to the light rail (tram) network where it runs in a dedicated corridor but it is not applicable where trams run on public roads".

COTMA considers however, that despite the exemptions described for tramways in Section 6.1 on p.6 of the document, the definitions of railway crossings and level crossings in the Rail Safety National Law as so far adopted in each State, other than in Victoria, do not currently recognise trams in a street situation. Those definitions are set out in the policy on p. 4.

For the ONRSR press release and a link to the policy itself see: <http://www.onrsr.com.au/news/news-stories/onrsr-railway-crossings-policy> COTMA recommends that Members review the policy and make themselves aware of it.

Melbourne Tram 183 - ex Ballarat 30 - available for purchase??



The Ballarat Tramway Museum has been advised by Richard Holmes of California rhomes41@comcast.net that the reconstruction of former Melbourne tram 183, (later Ballarat 30) at Willits California is nearing a stage where the tram can be track tested. The team undertaking the task are wondering if there is any interest in Australia to return the car back home. The story of the tram and its reconstruction is well covered in the Ballarat Tramway Museum's February 2015 Fares Please! Magazine. See http://www.btm.org.au/Fares_Please/2015/1502fp.pdf

If there is any interest, please contact Richard directly.

Kind regards

Dave Hinman

Chairman
30 June 2016