

## **Bill Saggers**

#### My Background:

Portland Harbour Trust: 1956-57

O CRB: 1959-77

Loder & Bayly, Consultants: 1977-84

Road Traffic Authority (RTA): 1984-89

• VicRoads: 1989-2002

O'Brien Traffic, Consultants: 2002-07

Post Retiring: Boag's Brewery; 'Community Projects'

#### **Work Experience**

- Bridge Design; Road Design.
- Transportation Studies:
  - Melbourne, Geelong, Ballarat, Bendigo, Derwent Region.
- Freeway Planning, Design, Consultation, Review, Operation.
- Local Area Traffic Management.
- Traffic Studies Strategic; Local Government; Developers' Proposals:
- Arterial Road Programs: 'Principal Traffic Routes'; Smart Bus.
- Works Program Planning & Agency Budget Structures.
- Growth Area Planning for the State's Planning Department.
- Agency Advice Treasury Submission to Commonwealth.
- Consultant Registration System.

### **Background Environment**

- Work done across a "Golden Age".
- I had the good fortune to work for some great professional masters & colleagues: Engineers, Planners, Sociologists, Architects and Economists.
- Unlike the present, it was an era built on:
  - Research;
  - Surveys;
  - Analysis;
  - Co-operative learning from one another; and
  - High level support for undertakings and for application.
- Overall, I saw my time as one of problem solving, not 'just work'.



1960s Bill standing, first left.

To promote safer driving in the early 60s, Bill bought car safety belts in bulk and sold them to staff and then campaigned to have mandatory seat belts in VicRoads vehicles.

Other highlights include introducing computer modelling in the 1960s, ground-breaking local area traffic studies and being a central player in a metropolitan transport study in 1966-68 to develop 300 miles of freeway network for Melbourne that is still being used today.

One of Bill's first projects still has pride of place in his resume – the design of the number one wharf in Portland that included a special breakaway wall.

For the past four years, most of **Bill Saggers**' working life has been consumed with getting the new Easy Merge-Safer Flow initiative up and running.

When it successfully launched in June, Bill decided it was time to leave VicRoads.

Bill developed the concept for the new road safety weapon after a visit to his son in Minneapolis. It is based on a system used by the traffic management system in the American state.

His 44-year career – 36 with VicRoads – is littered with prizes, projects and achievements. Professional and personal highlights over the years include being invited to speak in Nashville in his capacity as President of the Institute of Transport Engineers, 10 years coaching junior baseball and starting a car club in the 1960s through which motor racing legend Peter Brock got his first competition licence.

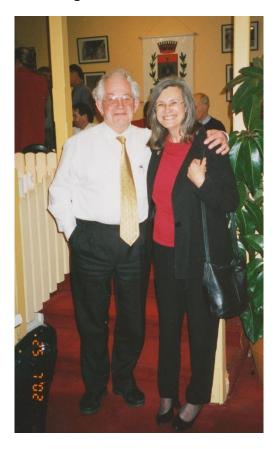


Trial switch-on of the new 'Easy Merge-Safer Flow' signals at Bulleen - (18/6/02)

### A couple of photos from Bill's farewell from VicRoads in 2002



2002 Bill, Les Kovacs and Brian Negus



2002 Bill with Kerry Wiilis

A few of photos of Bill post retirement, lunching with friends.





2015



Some more people Bill worked with.



2007 George Whittingslow, Neil Guerin, Jim Webber

# Some photos from 2007







Joy & Bill Saggers







2014 Lunches at George Whittingslow's place: