

Belconnen

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Get ready for March's festival of events

Building for a growing city



An artist's impression of the Kippax Group Centre upgrades

Message from the Chief Minister

The ACT Government is getting on with a number of infrastructure upgrades right across the city. From local shops, including Kippax and Charnwood, Aranda Playground improvements and recreation facilities like the new Belconnen half pipe; these investments will meet the needs of our growing city well into the future.

The plans we make today will transform our city for tomorrow.

This is an infrastructure program that is built for Canberra, to ensure that we continue to be one of the most liveable cities in Australia and the world.

Andrew Barr



Read more online.

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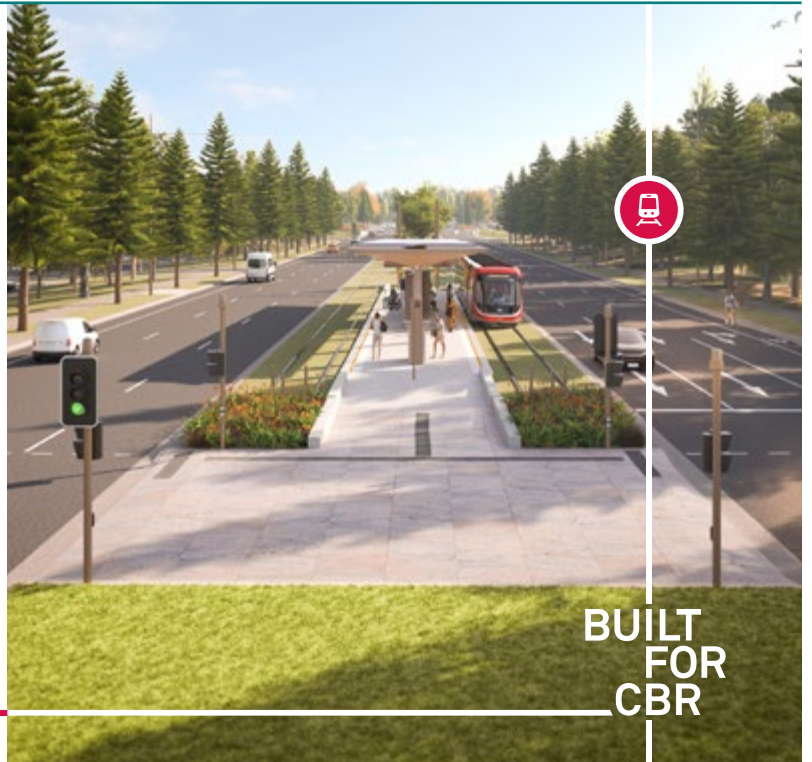
Early works begin for Light Rail Stage 2A

Early works are beginning on the next stage of Canberra's light rail project: Stage 2A City to Commonwealth Park.

Work includes site investigation to locate services and utilities, including their exact location and depth.

Canberrans can also visit the National Arboretum to view the project's green track prototype. Once laid, the green track will help counter the 'urban heat island' effect, absorb more rainwater and help reduce noise and glare.

More details will be available soon.
Scan the QR code to stay up to date.



Spotlight on Canberra Hospital's new Emergency Department

Work is on track for the opening of Canberra Hospital's new state-of-the-art Critical Services Building. Its brand-new Emergency Department (ED) will have a dedicated children's emergency area with its own triage and waiting area and child-friendly treatment spaces.

It will feature a new six-bed behavioural assessment unit to support better care for adult patients with complex care needs. There will also be separate triage for patients self-presenting and those coming in by ambulance, to help with the movement of patients in the ED.

In addition, the new building will have more medical imaging machines, increasing access to scanning and helping to reduce wait times.

More paramedics for Canberra

There will be more help for Canberrans in their time of need with an additional 11 paramedic crews to be rostered on over each 24-hour period.

As well as allowing ambulance services to better meet community demand, employing more frontline paramedics will improve fatigue management practices and create a better work-life balance for staff.



Read more online.

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Free period products in every public school

The ACT Government is committed to providing free period products for every Canberran who needs them.

In every ACT public school, students, staff and visitors can access free period products. They are available during the school day from front offices.

As the initiative is expanded, free period products will also become available at a range of community locations across the ACT.



Kippax public space upgrades starting soon

A range of upgrades will soon begin at the Kippax Group Centre. The work will enhance the look and feel of the area, bringing a refreshed streetscape with new landscaping and retaining walls.

It will soon be safer for pedestrians to move around Hardwick Crescent. New crossings and speed humps will be added, and the two southern priority crossings will be raised.

The centre's shopfront pavement will also be widened to improve access. This will allow space for outdoor café areas and public outdoor furniture, which can be enjoyed for longer with new lighting improvements to increase safety.

Find out more online at builtforcbr.act.gov.au



New term, new facilities for Belco public schools

Hawker College's brand-new science hub is intended to provide a source of inspiration for the next generation of budding scientists.

Students at Miles Franklin Primary School in Evatt now have a new indoor learning space and outdoor play area, which includes an inground trampoline and sandpit for their enjoyment.

These are among several ACT public schools to receive upgrades over summer.

Acknowledgement of Country



We acknowledge the Ngunnawal people as traditional custodians of the ACT and recognise any other people or families with connection to the lands of the ACT and region. We acknowledge and respect their continuing culture and the contribution they make to the life of this city and this region.



Accessibility
Ph 13 22 81



Ph 13 14 50



Eyes on the skies for Canberra Balloon Spectacular

The annual Enlighten Festival is now on, with stunning lighting projections in the National Triangle every night until 11 March.

As the nightly illuminations draw to a close, the focus switches from dusk to dawn. Hot air balloons will fill the sky with colour and movement when the Canberra Balloon

Spectacular returns from Saturday, 9 March until Sunday, 17 March.

Experience the excitement as around 40 hot air balloons drift over the city each morning, launching from 6.15am on the Patrick White Lawns behind the National Library (weather permitting).

Learn more at enlightencanberra.com

Celebrate Canberra Day on 11 March

Join the fun as the city celebrates Canberra Day on Monday, 11 March.

Stretch your legs and support your community by taking part in the Canberra Day Appeal Fun Run. Then head along to Commonwealth Park for a day of entertainment, live music and family-friendly activities. Sample a range of delicious cuisines and browse locally made products and handicrafts at the food and makers market.

Profits from the run will support local charities through Hands Across Canberra. Learn more at enlightencanberra.com



What's on

Date	Event
1–11 Mar	Enlighten Festival Various locations
8 Mar	BOLD Bites 2024 Canberra Museum and Gallery
10 Mar	Black Opal Stakes Race Day Thoroughbred Park
11 Mar	National Sheep Dog Trial Championships Hall Showground
13–24 Mar	Canberra Comedy Festival Various locations
28 Mar–1 Apr	National Folk Festival EPIC
31 Mar	PAWS Party Haig Park
31 Mar	Meet the Easter Bunny Old Bus Depot Markets

Canberrans can also cheer on the Raiders, Brumbies and A-League Women at GIO Stadium and Mckellar Park this month.

 For more events and details, visit events.canberra.com.au

Welcome back, Skyfire

Skyfire returns this year after a five-year hiatus. Gather the family and head to the shores of Lake Burley Griffin on Saturday, 16 March to experience the excitement of the beloved fireworks display.

Over 40,000 effects, 2,500 shells and 25,000 shooting comets will form part of the 20-minute display – all set

to a high-energy soundtrack played simultaneously on radio stations Hit 104.7 and Mix 106.3.

There will also be live music at Regatta Point featuring Dragon, DJ Divito, and the RMC Rock Band, plus food trucks and aerial displays.

Find out more online.