

# Light Rail Stage 2A City to Commonwealth Park Environmental Assessment

## Chapter Summary: Landscape character and visual realm

Light Rail Stage 2A City to Commonwealth Park has the potential to change the landscape character and visual realm of the area. The Environmental Assessment identifies which areas of the city may be impacted and how the visual impacts could be mitigated.

### Areas evaluated

- **Major avenues and axes** include the vegetated corridors with focal points including Parliament House, Old Parliament House and the Australian War Memorial
- **Lake Burley Griffin and foreshores** include the open waters of Lake Burley Griffin and the parklands that border it
- **London Circuit** a predominantly commercial street with office and Government buildings, open air spaces, and accommodation
- **Parkes Way** a wide, straight roadway, with embankments and retaining walls

### During construction

The presence of equipment and construction materials may temporarily affect the landscape character.

#### Mitigation measures:



Use of high-quality construction hoarding (shade cloth), possibly featuring public art and information on local heritage



Plan worksite storage of materials and equipment to mitigate visual impacts as much as possible

### During operation

Most sites will experience either a neutral or beneficial visual impact from light rail.



The new street tree plantings around London Circuit and on Commonwealth Avenue will improve the visual character of the area and mitigate the presence of light rail infrastructure



The introduction of 'green track', uniform lighting, better signage and street furniture will improve the visual realm in some areas

The only area assessed to have an adverse visual impact from light rail will be the City Hill viewpoint from Commonwealth Avenue. The introduction of street trees within the median will help reduce the visual impact of shade structures at the proposed City South stop. To further minimise impacts wherever practicable, above-ground street elements such as lighting, traffic signals and traffic signs will be combined on common use poles. This will help reduce visual clutter and potential conflict with views and landscape elements.



### Have your say

As part of the planning approval process for the Light Rail Stage 2A project, a Works Approval has been submitted to the National Capital Authority (NCA) and a Development Application has been submitted to the ACT Planning and Land Authority (ACTPLA).

To have your say on the project, you can make a submission to the NCA or ACTPLA.

Visit [act.gov.au/lightrailtowoden](https://act.gov.au/lightrailtowoden) to learn more about the project and how to have your say.

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