

Light Rail to Woden Project Update

July 2026



▲ The new Commonwealth Park Light Rail Stop under construction.

Light Rail Stage 2A is taking shape

Work is continuing on Light Rail Stage 2A following major public realm improvements and track works at Northbourne Avenue and Alinga Street in January.

Three new light rail stops are being constructed at Edinburgh Avenue, City South and Commonwealth Avenue, with the outlines of the platforms beginning to show at street level. Structural steel and the signature canopies are being installed and they will soon greet Canberrans travelling on the light rail from Alinga Street through to Commonwealth Park.

The stage is being set for future light rail tracks in City West, with track slabs being installed across London Circuit

towards Commonwealth Avenue. The track slab plays a vital role in operations – keeping rails properly aligned, preventing uneven wear and ensuring safe and reliable operations for passengers. Further track works, including pouring the concrete track slab and installing the rails will continue on London Circuit West and Commonwealth Avenue for the remainder of the year.

Light Rail Stage 2A is also delivering upgrades to critical utilities along the alignment. Recently, a new water main was installed beneath Commonwealth Avenue. This involved excavating roughly 1,000 tonnes of spoil and soil, then lifting

over 10 tonnes of pipework into position using a precision crane. The main was able to be installed as a single unit, allowing work to be completed efficiently across both sides of Commonwealth Avenue.

Temporary closures and traffic detours will continue to be in place to ensure works are carried out safely while commuters move around the city during this significant construction phase of the project. Plan your

journey in advance and check travel times at act.gov.au/builtforcbr/travel-impacts.



▲ Construction crews installing a new water main beneath Commonwealth Avenue.



▲ The light rail track slab installed at London Circuit approaching Commonwealth Avenue.

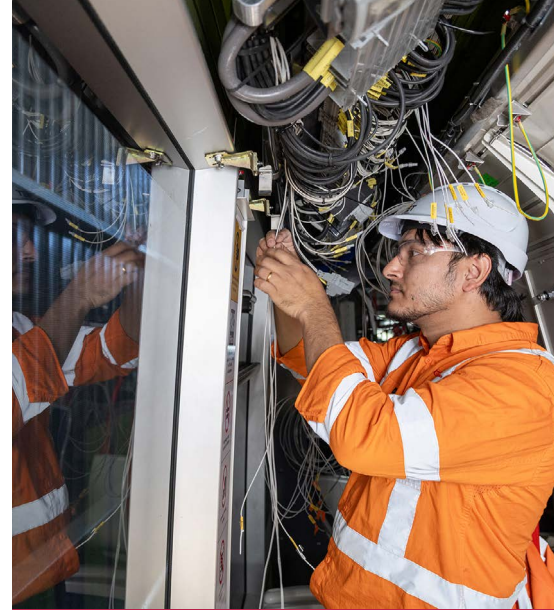
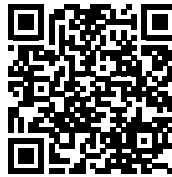


▲ City businesses remain a popular choice for Canberrans - day or night.

Civic is open for business

While construction for Light Rail Stage 2A is underway, restaurants, cafes, bars and businesses in the city remain open. Access is maintained and signs are in place to help you find your way. Discover somewhere new or fall back in love with an old favourite by visiting inthecity.com.au.

Looking for inspiration for your next night out in the city? Scan the QR code to find out how you can experience a global comfort food tour this winter without needing a passport.

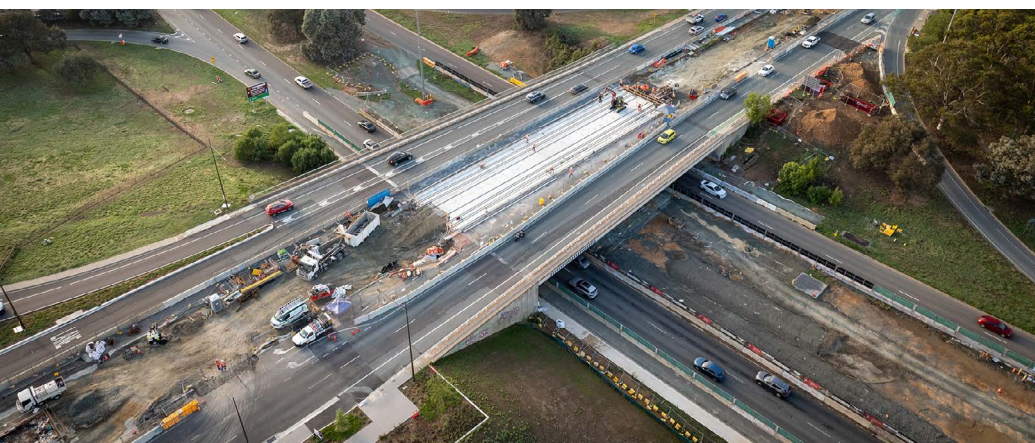


▲ On-board energy storage systems (OESS) being installed at Canberra Metro Operations Depot in Mitchell.

One step closer to wire-free travel

Canberra's light rail vehicles are being retrofitted with on-board energy storage systems (OESS) to enable wire-free travel on the light rail extension from Alinga Street to Commonwealth Park. The fourteen existing fleet vehicles will be retrofitted as part of a staged rollout that supports clean energy and local jobs.

The retrofitted vehicles will join five new light rail vehicles which have progressively entered operation since 2024 that arrived pre-fitted with OESS. Together, they will establish a fleet that provides Canberrans with a flexible, reliable and sustainable public transport option as they travel across the city.



▲ Pictured from above: The bridge deck for the new light rail bridge over Parkes Way.

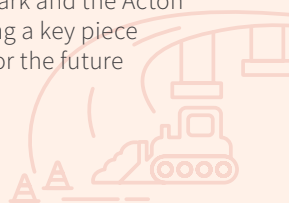
Building the new light rail bridge

Canberra's newest light rail bridge over Parkes Way is continuing to take shape, with 600 cubic metres of concrete poured in February to create the bridge deck.

The bridge, now weighing 775 tonnes suspended in air, is also strengthened with 500 cubic metres of flowable fill (a fast-setting concrete alternative)

behind the abutments, and 12,000 shear studs on the girder cast into the deck.

The new bridge will be a vital connection between the city, Commonwealth Park and the Acton Waterfront, forming a key piece of infrastructure for the future light rail network.



Artist's impression of Kings Avenue stop.



Light Rail to Woden: Stage 2B alignment confirmed

The ACT Government has confirmed the alignment for Light Rail Stage 2B: Commonwealth Park to Woden. It will run from Commonwealth Avenue through the National Triangle, along the east side of State Circle to Adelaide Avenue, and then on to Woden.

The decision follows extensive consultation and feedback on the project's draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS), along with consideration of the project's concept design, and its environmental and social benefits and impacts.

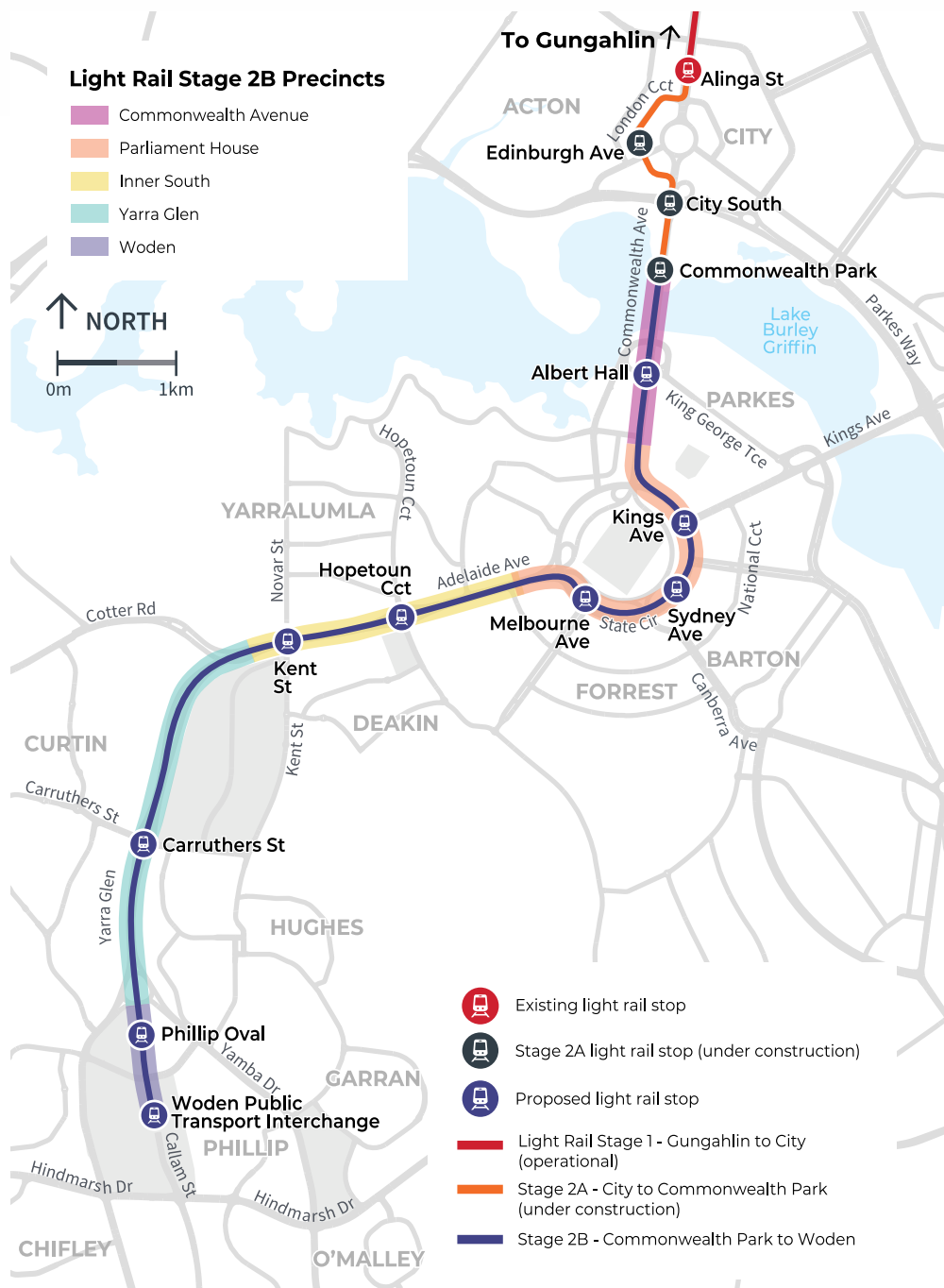
The alignment features a direct and efficient route between the City and Woden and connects the destinations in between. It proposes to add nine new stops to the light rail network which will be located close to key business, residential and cultural destinations on the southside of Canberra.

It is consistent with the indicative route of the National Capital Plan's Inter-Town Public Transport System, providing a clear approvals pathway for the project.

Feedback from stakeholders and the community has informed refinements to the project design in the revised, final EIS. This includes an "inner running" track arrangement on State Circle, between Sydney Avenue and Adelaide Avenue. This will help reduce disruption to residents, businesses and the road network. The Traction Power Substation that was originally proposed to be located in Yarralumla will be relocated to Deakin.

The revised, final EIS was lodged with both the Australian and ACT governments in June with an outcome expected by the end of the year.

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





▲ Members of the Light Rail to Woden Community Reference Group at Yarralumla Nursery viewing the trees planned for the alignment.

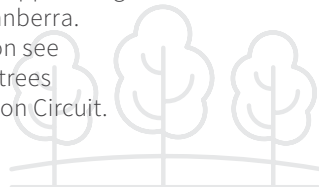


▲ Trees being grown and nurtured at Yarralumla Nursery for planting along the 2A alignment.

New trees along the Light Rail Stage 2A alignment

As part of the Light Rail Stage 2A project, more than 140 trees will be planted along and adjacent to the light rail alignment from Alinga Street to Commonwealth Park. Trees that will be planted are consistent with species already within London Circuit and Commonwealth Avenue including Pin Oaks and Yarralumla Chinese Elms.

A key objective of the Landscape Strategy for Light Rail Stage 2A is to increase tree canopy coverage to 30% in the project area. This corresponds with targets defined in the ACT Government's Urban Forest Strategy 2021-2045. By working to these targets, the project is set to deliver infrastructure that supports a greener, more connected Canberra. Canberrans will soon see some of these new trees planted along London Circuit.



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