



MEDIA STATEMENT

Friday 24 October 2025

Leading associations partner to strengthen transport sector

Two of the nation's leading transport associations have formalised a new partnership at the Public Transport Association Australia New Zealand (PTAANZ) Annual Conference in Brisbane.

The Australasian Railway Association (ARA) and PTAANZ have signed a memorandum of understanding that brings together the combined strength of more than 300 member organisations across both associations.

The MOU sets out a commitment to a range of initiatives, including joint advocacy on the importance of public transport investment, major research projects and shared event platforms.

With the ARA's strong track record representing members across the full scope of rail operations, and PTAANZ's growing reach across all modes of public transport, the alignment will enable a more unified voice on matters of critical importance for the transport sector.

As transport is projected to become Australia's largest emitting sector by 2030, collaboration will be critical to achieving decarbonisation targets and encouraging more trips to shift to public and shared transport.

PTAANZ Chief Executive Lauren Streifer said the agreement marked an historic moment for both associations.

"This new partnership between ARA and PTAANZ will amplify the voices of all our members and deliver better outcomes for the communities we serve," she said.

"We all know the importance of public transport in delivering a more sustainable, connected and liveable future for generations to come.

"Whether it's decarbonisation, infrastructure delivery or customer experience, our challenges and opportunities are increasingly shared.

"Our members across both government and industry understand the importance of pulling in the same direction and that's exactly what this partnership is about.

"We know the importance of industry associations working together and will have more exciting announcements over the coming weeks.

"I look forward to working even more closely with Caroline Wilkie and the fantastic ARA team as part of this historic agreement."



ARA Chief Executive Officer Caroline Wilkie said the collaboration between the two organisations would supercharge the sector’s advocacy.

“The partnership ensures a strong and united voice to showcase the importance of public transport to Australia and New Zealand’s future,” Ms Wilkie said.

“The transport sector will be a crucial part of supporting decarbonisation, relieving housing pressures and improving productivity and efficiency – but we cannot achieve these outcomes alone.

“Our combined advocacy will support a strong and sustainable investment pipeline and drive new approaches to support greater use of public transport.

“I look forward to working alongside PTAANZ to address the issues that matter to our collective members.”

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