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ARA welcomes Victoria's investment in new trains

The Australasian Railway Association (ARA) has welcomed the Victorian Government's \$986 million commitment to build 25 new X'Trapolis 2.0 as part of its 2021-22 budget.

ARA Chief Executive Officer Caroline Wilkie said the new commitment expanded on the State Government's significant investment in new rollingstock in recent years and would ensure a better journey for passengers.

"We are pleased to see the Victorian Government further its commitment to modernising its fleet for the benefit of all rail users," Ms Wilkie said.

"These new trains will make passengers' rail journey as easy, comfortable and efficient as possible.

"This is a great opportunity to ensure more trains on the network are accessible for all as older models are retired.

"We look forward to seeing the delivery of new trains that leverage new technologies to improve sustainability outcomes."

Ms Wilkie said the new investment would also be a welcome boost for the local manufacturing sector, creating 750 jobs across the supply chain.

She said it was pleasing to see at least 150 of the new jobs created would be based in Ballarat, supporting regional development.

It was important the procurement process adopted best practice principles that aligned with national and international standards.

"Victoria's continued investment in rollingstock will help strengthen the rail supply chain and allow rail manufacturing businesses to innovate and grow," she said.

"We are pleased to see the State Government's commitment to designing and building new trains right here in Australia."

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Further information

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