

Media Release

2 June 2020

New Sydney Metro agreement will deliver jobs, long term benefits

The Australasian Railway Association (ARA) has welcomed the injection of an additional \$3.5 billion into the Sydney Metro – Western Sydney Airport rail project this week to get construction underway this year.

ARA Chief Executive Officer Caroline Wilkie said the new agreement between the Federal and NSW governments would create jobs to support the nation's economic recovery while building a lasting legacy for the people of western Sydney.

"This is exactly the kind of jobs creating infrastructure investment the country needs right now and we are pleased to see this important project getting underway this year," Ms Wilkie said.

"It will not only create jobs to support our post COVID-19 recovery, but will also generate new opportunities for business and industry in years to come."

Ms Wilkie said the delivery of the project on time for the opening of the new Western Sydney Airport would provide a significant boost for the region.

"A direct rail connection from day one only strengthens the case for the airport precinct as the region seeks to attract more businesses to western Sydney as part of the development," Ms Wilkie said.

"This gives the region the best chance of making the most of the opportunities the airport precinct presents."

The ARA supports infrastructure investment to fund new or fast-track existing projects as part of the post pandemic recovery strategy.

"Investment in rail projects like this one provides much more than just a short term boost as part of our recovery," she said.

"This is a great example of state and federal governments working together to make sure economic stimulus measures deliver tangible and lasting benefits to our communities."

ENDS

Media contact: Joeley Pettit – 0407 061 421, jpettit@ara.net.au