

Construction starts on Light Rail Stage 2A - City to Commonwealth Park

Construction of Light Rail Stage 2A City to Commonwealth Park in Canberra has commenced. Project delivery includes CIMIC Group's CPB Contractors, Pacific Partnerships and UGL.

Jointly funded by the ACT Government and Australian Government, CPB Contractors is delivering the design and construction of the project in a joint venture.

Pacific Partnerships, as part of Canberra Metro - an existing public-private partnership with the ACT Government - is funding the design, construction and operation of the Light Rail.

UGL is part of the Canberra Metro Operations (CMET) joint venture that operates the existing operational Stage 1 and will also operate the Stage 2A extension once it is built.

After successfully delivering Light Rail Stage 1 in Canberra Light Rail, CPB Contractors will extend the alignment by 1.7 kilometres as part of Stage 2A, explains Project Director Julian Sharp.

"The CPB Contractors team has been planning and designing Stage 2A for more than 12 months... leveraging our expertise and proven track record delivering transformational rail projects to deliver a solution that will enhance the commuter experience and support the city's growth," adds Julian.

Along with its 1.7km light rail extension, the Stage 2A project will feature a range of safety features, three new stops, new cycling and walking infrastructure, landscaping, and aesthetic features.



Before this project, CIMIC Group was a key part of the successful delivery of Stage One of Canberra Light Rail.

Stage One was delivered under a 23-year public-private partnership with the Canberra Metro consortium, which includes CIMIC Group companies such as Pacific Partnerships (equity funding and project leadership), CPB Contractors (design and construction), and UGL (operations and maintenance). Since its launch in April 2019, the system has achieved over 16.5 million passenger trips and 4.5 million km travelled (as of March 2024), with an impressive on-time performance of 99.8% and high customer satisfaction.

In addition to its operational success, the project operates on 100% renewable electricity and secured Australia's first green loan in 2020, reflecting its commitment to sustainability in line with the ACT's net-zero emissions strategy. Canberra Metro is also innovating further by installing onboard energy storage systems on both new and existing light rail vehicles for Stage 2, reducing the need for overhead wiring on future extensions.

