

# MEDIA RELEASE



Driving Business Success for Consulting Firms in the Built and Natural Environment

Tuesday 2 May 2017

## Stronger industry engagement to support a stronger Victoria

The Victorian Budget for 2017-2018 has been welcomed as positive and robust by industry association, Consult Australia.

'The Victorian Infrastructure pipeline will see a \$10.1 billion investment into the projects our community needs, which will continue to consolidate our success and secure our future' Industry association Consult Australia, Chief Executive Megan Motto said.

'With an increasing population, expected to exceed 10 million people by 2051, it is critical that proper planning and industry consultation processes are in place to retain our world-class liveability and give growing communities the services and amenities they deserve.'

With construction of Melbourne Metro Rail Network already commenced and 10 level crossing removals, our unemployment rate has further declined, creating an economic boost for local jobs. This success will continue with an additional 50 000 jobs created through the construction of the West Gate Tunnel project, Mordialloc bypass and upgrade of our regional roads.

'Victoria's economic strength continues to strengthen allowing the government to continue to invest in world-class infrastructure.'

'Smarter planning by engaging with industry will be the key to ensuring all commitments made in today's Victorian State Budget can be achieved while providing taxpayers with maximum value for money.'

'Consulting firms in the built environment design the solutions to many of the challenges currently facing governments in dealing with issues such as congestion and the liveability and productivity of our communities'.

'Effective collaboration between government and industry will be fundamental to our success in meeting these challenges as part of the implementation of these positive budget announcements.' Ms Motto said.

Consult Australia is eager to work closely with the Victorian Government to ensure that the significant investments announced in today's Budget meet the needs of Victorian's for decades to come.

### Ends

For further information or to arrange an interview, please contact Consult Australia's CEO, Megan Motto on 0411 104 458 or via email at [megan@consultaustalia.com.au](mailto:megan@consultaustalia.com.au).

### About Consult Australia

Consult Australia is the industry association that represents the business interests of consulting firms operating in the built and natural environment.

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Our member firms include: AECOM, Beca, SMEC, GHD, Jacobs, Calibre Consulting, Arup, Golder Associates, Kellogg Brown & Root, Opus International Consultants, Aurecon, Arcadis, SLR, Rider Levett Bucknall, WSP | Parsons Brinckerhoff, MWH Australia, Norman Disney & Young and WorleyParsons.

We represent an industry comprising some 48,000 firms across Australia, ranging from sole practitioners through to some of Australia's top 500 firms. Collectively, our industry is estimated to employ over 240,000 people, and generate combined revenue exceeding \$40 billion a year.