

28 April 2016

## A Focus on the Future - 6 Ideas for Infrastructure

Consult Australia has today urged all political parties to move beyond short term political thinking and focus on the long term infrastructure that Australia so desperately needs.

The Federal Election wish list was launched today at the Consult Australia ASPAC CEO Conference attended by senior executives of major consulting and engineering firms across the Asia Pacific region.

“Government’s suffer from a short term view, focussing on the immediate political cycle, rather than the longer term vision”

“Taking a longer term view will ultimately benefit all Australians and make our cities more liveable” said Megan Motto Chief Executive of Consult Australia.

“With rapid changes in technology it is critical that Government plan early to maximise the benefits brought by the inevitable changes and ensure that the infrastructure we are planning today is positioned to accommodate new models for passenger and freight movement, changes in consumer behaviour and new markets for services that have not existed previously”.

“By being ready for the inevitable technological change, rather than reacting after it happens, we can develop the appropriate infrastructure more quickly and better manage the transition” Ms Motto said.

The election platform urges politicians regardless of political persuasion to consider Consult Australia’s 6 ideas for infrastructure, they include:

1. Better and fairer ways of paying for infrastructure.
2. Establishing an Infrastructure Innovation Fund to support an investment ready project pipeline
3. Preparing an Intelligent Transport Strategy
4. Building more for less through improved procurement
5. Incentivise Integrated Strategic Planning to support our standard of living in the future
6. Develop a fully funded National Freight and Supply Chain Strategy

Consult Australia CEO Megan Motto encourages all politicians to give serious consideration to the recommendations to ensure that Australia can plan and deliver the infrastructure for the future and maximise value for money for the taxpayer.

“Australia is home to some of the brightest and best engineers and designers in the world. We have the capacity to utilise the great minds and build the infrastructure, that isn’t just world class, but has the ability to serve the population for decades to come”

“The innovations and improvements that we can make to our own cities will not only improve the health and wealth of the vast majority of Australians, but will also be key intellectual exports that help shape the nature of urban life in our region”.

“It is too easy to focus on the bottom line today and forget the windfall benefits that the right infrastructure projects can provide now and into the future”

**Ends**

# MEDIA RELEASE



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

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@consultaaustralia.com.au](mailto:megan@consultaaustralia.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.

Our member firms include: AECOM, Beca, SMEC, GHD, Jacobs, Calibre Consulting, Golder Associates, Kellogg Brown & Root, Opus International Consultants, Aurecon, Arcadis, Rider Levett Bucknall, WSP | Parsons Brinckerhoff 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.