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MEDIA RELEASE

House Standing Committee on Infrastructure, Transport and Cities
Inquiry into automated mass transit

Issue date: Tuesday, 26 February 2019

Up and moving in Sydney and Melbourne

The House Infrastructure, Transport and Cities Committee inquiry into automated mass transit is holding hearings this week in Melbourne and Sydney as part of its inquiry into automated mass transit.

The Committee will hear from a range of witnesses from government, academia and industry on the way forward to a cleaner, greener, safer, more efficient transport system using automation and new energy sources.

Committee Chair John Alexander says the Committee is keen to learn about the potential for automation and new energy sources to improve economic, social and environmental outcomes.

‘The integration of different transport modes into a single seamless transport system should be the goal of governments and industry, and we need to fully investigate the role that automation can have in facilitating this,’ Mr Alexander said.

‘We have the technology. We need the policies and plans to effectively implement automated transport and new generation fuels. Cooperation across jurisdictions and coordination between government and industry is essential.’

In its submission, Infrastructure Victoria highlighted the potential benefits of automation, noting that on-demand public transport and mobility as a service (MaaS) ‘could make significant improvements to how we travel’ and, alongside integrated planning and payment for multi-modal trips, could ‘supplement existing public transport services and pave the way for introducing on-demand automated vehicles’. They ‘recommended incorporating on-demand and MaaS into the public transport mix in preparation for automation’.

Leading infrastructure provider, Transurban, emphasised the need for policy coordination, stating that ‘it will be critical for new policies and regulations to be consistent across states and territories, and structured in such a way as to encourage innovation while ensuring public safety’.



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Melbourne public hearing details: 8.30 am – 4.00 pm, Wednesday, 27 February 2019, Room G6, Parliamentary Annex, 55 St Andrews Place, Melbourne

8.30 am: [National Transport Commission](#)

9.10 am: [Infrastructure Victoria](#)

9.50 am: [Transurban](#)

10.50 am: [Monash University](#) & [Monash University Accident Research Centre](#)

11.30 am: [Centre for Disaster Management – University of Melbourne](#)

12.10 pm: [La Trobe University](#)

12.50 pm: *Break*

1.50 pm: [Arup](#)

2.30 pm: Australian Academy of Technology and Engineering

3.10 pm: [Transdev Australasia](#)

4.00 pm: *Close*

Sydney public hearing details: 9.30 am – 4.10 pm, Thursday, 28 February 2019, Meeting Room 1, Commonwealth Parliamentary Offices, Level 21, 1 Bligh St, Sydney

9.30 am: [Hyperloop Transportation Technologies](#)

10.10 am: [Standards Australia](#)

11.10 am: [iMOVE](#)

11.50 am: [Uber](#)

12.30 pm: *Break*

1.30 pm: [Planning Institute of Australia](#)

2.10 pm: [Rail Tram and Bus Union](#)

2.50 pm: [Committee for Sydney](#)

3.30 pm: [AECOM](#)

4.10 pm: *Close*

The hearing will be broadcast live at aph.gov.au/live

Further information on the inquiry, including the full [terms of reference](#), is available on the [Committee' website](#)

Media enquiries: Mr John Alexander OAM MP (Bennelong, NSW), Chair of the House of Representatives Standing Committee on Infrastructure, Transport and Cities, Brendan Roberts, media advisor (02) 9869 4288, john.alexander.mp@aph.gov.au

For background:

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Interested members of the public may wish to track the inquiry via the [Committee' website](#). Click on the blue 'Track Committee' button in the bottom right hand corner and use the forms to login to My Parliament or to register for a My Parliament account.