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LIGHT RAIL OFFERS NEW OPPORTUNITIES FOR CANBERRA BUSINESSES

Canberra Business Chamber welcomes today's announcement of Canberra Metro as the prime contractor to build and operate Capital Metro as it means this project is now officially underway and local businesses can start to explore the opportunities it opens up for them.

"It is estimated light rail will create 3,500 jobs and hundreds of millions of dollars in economic benefits – we want to make sure Canberra businesses are primed to get their fair share," Canberra Business Chamber CEO, Robyn Hendry said.

Through the Light Rail Business Link Program, Canberra Business Chamber will help local businesses make the most of opportunities created by the construction and operation of light rail. In particular it will offer information, advice and training on key areas of competency, such as contract management.

"Getting involved in large infrastructure projects can potentially create as many risks for businesses, especially small businesses, as it does rewards. The support the Light Rail Business Link program provides will help local businesses avoid the pitfalls and prepare to succeed," Ms Hendry said.

One of the Light Rail Business Link's first activities is holding the inaugural presentation in a series of quarterly forums. Two highly-respected experts will provide attendees with guidance on competition law, contracts and how to build successful partnerships.

"We are delighted to have Dr Michael Schaper, Deputy Chair of the Australian Competition and Consumer Commission and Mark Brennan, Australian Small Business Commissioner share their knowledge and insights with us," Ms Hendry said.

"Their depth of experience and expertise means there is probably no one better to talk to Canberra businesses about the risks, responsibilities and regulations they must consider."

This business focused event will be held at the Pavilion on Northbourne on Tuesday, 16 February 2016 from 11.30 am to 2.30 pm.

Any local businesses wishing to take part in the Light Rail Business Link program and be kept informed of future events, can visit canberrabusines.com/services/programs/light-rail-business-link/ and complete the online contact form.

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