



# RECOVERY, GROWTH & TRANSFORMATION

FIVE KEYS TO UNLOCKING THE NATION'S CAPITAL

## MEDIA RELEASE

### Rebuilding tourism and our city key to economic recovery

ACT Executive Director of the Property Council of Australia has welcomed recent announcements made by major parties and their focus on growing tourism and delivering infrastructure, saying that out of the box thinking and commitment to infrastructure spending is what exactly what is needed from the next ACT Government

“We know that we are facing the greatest economic challenge we have ever seen, and we need big ideas and even bigger commitments from whoever is Chief Minister post the 17 October. We need a plan for growth and investment in the ACT, and why we are pleased that all sides of politics seem to have this at the forefront of their election pitches,” Ms Cirson said.

“With just over a week until election day, we have been pleased that many of the critical issues our members have been raising and highlighted in our election platform *Recovery, Growth & Transformation*<sup>1</sup> have cut through and are being reflected in announcements being made by all sides of politics.

“In particular, we have been pleased to hear from ACT Labor a plan to rebuild our tourism economy and their ‘Choose CBR’ initiative targeted to local businesses that have been hard-hit by the ongoing pandemic, particularly businesses operating in the tourism, hospitality, events and retail sectors. We also welcomed the Shadow Planning Minister’s pledge to review of RZ1 blocks to allow for dual occupancies to be built on larger blocks and provide housing choice for new homebuyers and those older Canberrans wanting to down size and age in place. The Greens also have committed to building 1000 social and community homes, to assist with affordability and stimulate the economy.

“Similarly, we have been very pleased that there have been a number of Infrastructure commitments – to spend \$21 million to build a new indoor venue at Epic by Labor, and the Canberra Liberals pledge today to match Commonwealth infrastructure spending announced in the budget. We also welcome newcomers – the Belco Party and their commitment to build a new 35,000-person stadium, convention centre and new sports facilities – all timely announcements critical need for tourism and infrastructure spending at this time.

“We need government to lead from the front, to take the immediate steps to break out of the COVID-19 generated recession, and to set Canberra up for long term success.

“As we head to the polls in October, we need to be clear that government is prepared to take swift action - to set Canberra up for recovery, who has a plan for growth, but who also has the vision needed to undertake our transformation to becoming the city we want to be,” Ms Cirson concluded.

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<sup>1</sup> <https://advocacy.propertycouncil.com.au/act-election-2020>