

2026

**THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY FOR THE
AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY**

ELEVENTH ASSEMBLY

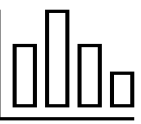
**Business Engagement Report – Light Rail Stage 2A
October to December 2025**

**Presented by
Chris Steel MLA
Minister for Transport
5 February 2026**

Business Engagement Report – Light Rail Stage 2A – October to December 2025

Engagement this quarter	43	122	4	74	169
	Targeted stakeholder meetings	Doorknocking events	Stakeholder events	Businesses engaged with	TOTAL ENGAGEMENT INTERACTIONS (does not include emails, SMS or phone calls)

Summary



Engagement summary

Targeted stakeholder meetings

In Q4 2025, 43 targeted stakeholder meetings were held, primarily with businesses on London Circuit (west and east) and around Northbourne Avenue/Alinga Street. These meetings included consultation with key stakeholders in December 2025 ahead of planned January 2026 works at Northbourne Avenue and Alinga Street. Discussions focused on maintaining access during continuous works. Stakeholders were generally supportive, though some raised concerns about business impacts during major events. In response, respite periods were scheduled for key events and businesses were offered tailored materials, including maps for customers. Some meetings included representatives from the new Lyric Theatre project, where businesses are affected by multiple city construction projects (e.g. London Circuit East). This collaborative approach has been well received and will continue in Q1 2026. Business support measures continued, including the Open for Business campaign launched in September 2025 to promote London Circuit as open for business.

Doorknocking events

Between October and December 2025, doorknocking focused on informing business owners of upcoming out of hours work that could directly impact them. Once relationships are established, communication between ICBR and a business often shifts to phone or email, which is not captured in this report. Doorknocks remain valuable for face-to-face engagement, sharing resources, providing information on the timing of upcoming works, establishing key contacts, and building strong relationships between government and businesses.

Stakeholder events/pop ups

Other engagement activities included:

- **City Construction Information Group (CCIG)** meetings on 27 October and 24 November 2025, attended by 10 city businesses in October and 6 city businesses in November. Topics included marketing, business support initiatives, and updates on Light Rail Stage 2A and other city projects, including the Lyric Theatre. The CCIG continues to provide the most effective forum for business owners to engage directly with the project team. The November meeting introduced an online attendance option following business feedback. Efforts to increase participation and maintain CCIG as a valuable forum will continue in 2026.
- **Community pop-ups** hosted by Canberra Metro and CMET on 6 and 12 November 2025 at Al’s Deli and Roy Jr, provided opportunities for community members to ask questions about upcoming works and light rail changes.

Businesses engaged through doorknocking during this period are listed in Attachment A. Note: engagement interactions exceed the number of businesses engaged, as some were contacted several times.

What to expect in Q1 2026

- Engagement will continue to focus on detailed work updates rather than general information.
- Phone and email will remain primary channels for established relationships.
 - For significant works (e.g. January works on Northbourne Avenue and Alinga Street), in-person meetings will be prioritised to ensure clear communication and address specific impacts.
 - Business support measures will continue, alongside targeted updates on work activities.
 - Doorknocking numbers will remain lower as engagement shifts to individual or group meetings such as CCIG.

Attachment A – Businesses met with during the reporting period

6th Position	Intermain
98 Gym	Janine Florist
Acai Capital	Kathmandu Momo House
African Look Salon	Kebaba
AJ Watch repair	Ken Cook Menswear
Al’s Deli	Love Athletica
All in One Super Mart	Luna
Amara	Madam Lu
Amici	Mama’s Trattoria
B One	Mezzalira
Bar Rochford	Mooseheads
Best Computers	Nara Thai Massage
Bistro Nguyen	Navitas Skilled Futures
Bite & Savor	Novotel
Bloom Room	Omnia
Briscola	Pharmacy on Northbourne
Buddy’s Convenience Store	PJ’s in the City
Bupa Dental	Post Office Alinga Street
Capital Kebab	QT Hotel
Central Periodontic	Quest Hotel
Charcoal Restaurant	Roy Jr
Chop Chop	Saatu Hair Design
City Family Practice	San Churro
Civic Asian Noodle House	SIKDANG
Civic Shoes	Sisters Inked
Clipper McCann	Smith’s Alternative
Countrywide Liquor	Solita
Dina’s Liquor	Squeaky Clean
Early Morning Centre	Strategic Psychology
East Row Cafe	Subway
Ethiopian on Northbourne	Ted's Cameras
Evans & McMahon Optometrists	The Cupping Room
Flui	TT Hoang Giang Fashion
Franco of Canberra	The Blue Olive
Freestyle Tattoo Studio and Body Piercing	Verity Lane
Hair by Charles	West Row Botanica
Hey Show	White Rabbit