



# 16th Annual SA Major Projects Conference 2026

4-5 May 2026  
Adelaide Convention Centre  
Adelaide, SA, Australia

saconference.com.au

## Conference Agenda

### Day 1 - 4th May 2026

08:00 - 08:50  
REGISTRATION

08:50 - 09:00  
MC OPENS

09:00 - 09:30

#### Speed Networking

Introduce yourself, swap business cards, and form new and lasting business connections during a series of one-on-one exchanges with fellow conference delegates.

09:30 - 09:50

#### Infrastructure SA Update



- Infrastructure SA consults broadly with all levels of government, infrastructure providers and users, local councils and communities.
- Hear key updates and priorities from the independent advisory body on their 20-year state infrastructure strategy.

Jeremy Conway, Chief Executive, Infrastructure SA

🕒 09:50 - 10:10



### Adelaide Airport Upgrades

- In late 2023, Adelaide Airport Ltd announced a \$1 billion, five-year, capital investment plan to fund significant upgrades to the airport's infrastructure.
- \$600 million of the \$1 billion investment is allocated to an aeronautical infrastructure upgrade program called Project Flight.
- Hear about Project Flight and other developments at Adelaide Airport.

Peter Taylor, Head of Project Delivery, Adelaide Airport Limited

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🕒 10:10 - 10:30



### Innovation Centre at Lot Fourteen

- Lot Fourteen's Innovation Centre, anchored by BAE Systems and Adelaide University.
- Significant public investment and infrastructure supporting AUKUS Pillar 1 and Pillar 2, shipbuilding, and sovereign capability development.
- Leveraging Lot Fourteen's market position to generate strong industry confidence, with construction commencing in 2026.

Diane Dixon, State Project Lead, Lot Fourteen, State Innovation Places Lead, Department of the Premier and Cabinet, Government of SA

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🕒 10:30 - 11:00  
**MORNING TEA**

🕒 11:00 - 11:20



### Construction Trends in 2026

- Construction Trends in 2026 outlines the key construction trends shaping the coming year, highlighting the shift towards connected, data-driven project delivery. It covers the growing impact of digital transformation, AI and automation, industrialised construction, and smart job sites, along with the increasing importance of operational excellence and predictability.
- The session also explores what these changes mean for organisations, including where to focus investment and how to stay competitive in an evolving industry.

Mike Kain, Lead Technical Consultant, ACC, ARKANCE

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🕒 11:20 - 11:40

### The State Planning Commission

- The State Planning Commission is an independent body providing advice and leadership on all aspects of planning and development in South Australia.
- The Commission is also the state's principal development assessment and planning advisory body.
- Hear about plans and updates from the State Planning Commission.



Craig Holden, Chair, State Planning Commission

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🕒 11:40 - 12:00

### Adelaide Central Plaza Tower

- In September 2025, the SCAP approved plans for a \$260 million, 30-storey commercial tower, to be built at the rear of 100 Rundle Mall, facing 210 North Terrace, in the Adelaide CBD.
- Hear about plans for the Adelaide Central Plaza Tower.



Tom Jarrett, Director, PACT Architects

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🕒 12:00 - 12:40

### PANEL DISCUSSION Housing Affordability

- Like all states and territories in Australia, South Australia is facing a shortage of affordable housing for both rent and purchase.
- In this session, participants discuss steps that are being taken to ensure people have access to affordable housing.



Craig Holden, Chair, State Planning Commission

Julie-Anne Burgess, Chief Executive, SA Housing Trust

Shane Wingard, Acting Chief Executive, Renewal SA

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🕒 12:40 - 13:00

### Flinders Medical Centre Redevelopment

- The Flinders Medical Centre is undergoing a \$496 million upgrade and expansion, jointly funded by the State and Federal governments.
- The multistage project aims to significantly increase hospital capacity in Adelaide's south.
- The current stage focuses on building the new seven-storey Acute Services Building, with 98 new clinical spaces and the expansion of medical imaging.
- Hear about the project and progress to date.



Jesse Judd, Director, ARM Architecture

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🕒 13:00 - 14:00  
**LUNCH BREAK**

🕒 14:00 - 14:20

### **Purpose Built Student Accommodation**



- Increased demand for student accommodation is anticipated following the merger of the University of Adelaide and UniSA.
- SCAP granted planning permission in August 2025 for two new purpose-built student accommodation (PBSA) towers.
- Find out how PBSA is part of the solution to the housing crisis.

Dr Adele Lausberg, Executive Director, Student Accommodation, Property Council of Australia

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🕒 14:20 - 14:40

### **88 North Terrace Student Accommodation**



- Adelaide is set to welcome the city's largest purpose-built student accommodation (PBSA) development, with the state's independent planning board giving the green light for a \$400 million, 31-storey, 970-bed project on North Terrace.
- Hear about the PBSA tower's historic site and other project details.

Jason Di Iulio, Managing Director, 1835 Property

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🕒 14:40 - 15:00

### **Presentation by Conference Gold Sponsor ARKANCE**

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🕒 15:00 - 15:30  
**AFTERNOON TEA**

🕒 15:30 - 15:50

### **Flinders Adelaide Container Terminal (FACT) Upgrade**



- FACT is set to undergo a \$350 million transformation over the next three years, the largest capital investment initiative undertaken in Flinders Port Holdings history.
- Hear about plans to enhance the terminal's operational capacity and efficiency.

Dr Josh Smith, Program Director, Flinders Port Holdings / Gateway SA

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🕒 15:50 - 16:10

### Keystone Tower

- The Adelaide city skyline is set to be transformed following the planning approval of a 183 metre (37-storey) skyscraper which will become the city's tallest building.
- The skyscraper, which will tower over the Grand Lodge, incorporates a 200-room hotel, apartments, conference facilities, a business lounge, a wellness retreat, and a two-story observation deck.
- Hear about the Keystone Tower project.



Michael Baragwanath, Managing Director, Clime

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🕒 16:10 - 16:50

### PANEL DISCUSSION

#### Harmonising Modern Skyscrapers with Heritage Listed Buildings

- Hear about the need to conserve Adelaide's heritage buildings while making provision for the city's expanding population.
- Heritage architects will discuss challenges involved in harmonising modern skyscrapers with heritage listed buildings such as Parliament House.



Dr Stephen Schrapel, Senior Associate, Swanbury Penglase

Elizabeth Vines OAM, Partner, McDougall & Vines

Sandy Wilkinson, Director, Alexander Wilkinson Design

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🕒 16:50 - 16:55  
MC CLOSÉS

🕒 16:55 - 17:55



NETWORKING & DRINKS FUNCTION

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## Day 2 - 5th May 2026

🕒 08:20 - 08:50  
REGISTRATION

🕒 08:50 - 09:00  
MC OPENS

🕒 09:00 - 09:30

### Speed Networking

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🕒 09:30 - 09:50



### Lord Mayor's Address

Dr Jane Lomax-Smith AM, Lord Mayor, City of Adelaide

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🕒 09:50 - 10:10



### Market Square Development

- The \$400 million Market Square project, a joint venture between the City of Adelaide and ICD Property, incorporates an expansion of the Market, together with an all-electric commercial office tower, retail, on-site childcare, 231 luxury residences, a premium hotel offering 248 rooms and activated public spaces.
- Hear about this major mixed-use project in the heart of Adelaide's city centre.

Matt Rodda, Manager Property Development, City of Adelaide  
Matthew Khoo, Chief Executive Officer, ICD Property

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🕒 10:10 - 10:30



### ICN Major Projects Update

- The Industry Capability Network (ICN) provides a pivotal link between major project requirements and suppliers.
- ICN SA is part of a national network with offices in all states and territories.
- Hear about key projects in SA across infrastructure, construction, water, energy, mining and defence.

Bettina Venner, Head of ICN South Australia, Industry Capability Network

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🕒 10:30 - 11:10



### PANEL DISCUSSION:

#### Circular Economy – Minimising Waste and Maximising Value

- Hear from a panel of experts about the need for a circular economy in the construction industry and other sectors.
- By prioritising reuse and recycling, the construction industry can reduce its reliance on virgin materials, minimise landfill waste, and lower the embodied carbon emissions associated with new material production, while also creating economic opportunities.



Aubrey Thomas, Acting Associate Director of Economic Growth and Sustainability, Green Industries SA  
Jodie Bricout, Chair, Circular Australia  
Ken Long, Regional Sustainability Manager SA & VIC, Lendlease

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🕒 11:10 - 11:40  
TEA BREAK

🕒 11:40 - 12:00

### **New Mount Barker Hospital Development**



- The South Australian Government has committed \$365.8 million to the new Mount Barker Hospital development which will see a major redevelopment on the existing site and provide greater access to high-quality health services closer to home for the expanding population of Mount Barker and the Adelaide Hills region.
- Hear project updates.

Peter Harrison, Senior Project Manager: Capital Projects, Infrastructure, Department for Health and Wellbeing

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🕒 12:00 - 12:20

### **MATES in Construction**



- MATES in Construction is a national charity dedicated to addressing mental health challenges and suicide prevention within the construction industry.
- This not-for-profit organisation has commenced mental health support training with construction workers on the new Women's Children's Hospital.

Karyn Dale, Chief Executive Officer, MATES in Construction SA

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🕒 12:20 - 12:40

### **Siviour Graphite Project**



- Hear about development plans for Renascor's Siviour graphite deposit on the Eyre Peninsula, which is the world's second largest proven graphite reserve.
- The Siviour graphite project will contribute to Australia's critical mineral strategy by increasing the supply of graphite and expanding Australia's capability to refine and process critical minerals.
- Critical minerals are an essential component in the manufacturing of technology such as large-scale battery energy storage systems, mobile phones, laptops, medical equipment and electric cars.

Adam Rusinski, Commercial and Business Development Manager, Renascor Resources

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🕒 12:40 - 13:00

### Northern Battery Project

- The Northern Battery Project is a major 270 megawatts, grid-forming battery energy storage system, planned for Port Augusta.
- Developed by Green Gold Energy and AMPYR Australia, it will be located at the former Northern Power Station site, storing up to eight hours of energy to support 300,000 households.
- Construction is expected to begin in 2026.
- Discover how the proposed Northern Battery project will contribute to broader carbon-neutral and energy transition goals.
- Hear about the social and economic benefits the project will deliver to the local community, as well as the importance of community engagement in regional and rural South Australia.



Dr Kym Chappell, Director of Strategy, Culture and Engagement, Green Gold Energy

Will Story, Head of First Nations and Community Partnerships, AMPYR Energy

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🕒 13:00 - 14:00  
LUNCH

🕒 14:00 - 14:20

### Securing Water for South Australia

- This session will provide an overview of major projects underway to provide water security and services for South Australia.



Peter Seltsikas, General Manager, Sustainable Infrastructure, SA Water

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🕒 14:20 - 14:40

### Deep Maintenance and Modification Facility

- A \$200 million Deep Maintenance and Modification Facility (DMMF) is being constructed in Adelaide's northern suburbs.
- The DMMF is an enormous defence aircraft modification facility, utilising almost two thousand tonnes of structural steel.
- Renewal SA will provide an overview of the project.



Tim Tape, Development Director, Industrial and Defence, Renewal SA

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🕒 14:40 - 15:00



### Carmody's Hill Wind Farm

- Developed by Aula Energy, Carmody's Hill is a 256MW wind farm located near Georgetown in South Australia's Mid North. Once complete, the wind farm will feature 42 turbines and a 275kV transmission line with the option to develop a 123 MW BESS.
- The project will support up to 200 jobs in the South Australian region during the construction phase and generate clean energy to power more than 195,000 South Australian homes when it begins operation, which is expected in 2028.
- The project is backed by the Australian Government through the Capacity Investment Scheme and is currently in the construction phase.
- As one of only a small number of projects in the NEM to reach financial close in challenging market conditions last year, Carmody's Hill Wind Farm provides a timely case study on overcoming delivery, financing and market constraints to move projects into construction.
- Learn more about how Carmody's Hill Wind Farm will contribute to South Australia's energy transition and carbon-neutral goals, while delivering long-term social and economic benefits, including local employment, regional investment, and dedicated programs supporting community and Traditional Owner engagement across the project lifecycle.

Steve Smith, Project Director: Carmody's Hill Wind Farm, Aula Energy

🕒 15:00 - 15:05  
MC CLOSES

Agenda is subject to change  
\*Speakers to be confirmed

An Event by:



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