Media Release

5 November 2026

Global transport leaders to converge on Sydney for major public transport summit

Sydney welcomes the Global Transport Leaders Summit (4-5 November), with delegates from around the world coming together to discuss public transport's role in reducing emissions and driving climate action.

Sydney's bold and ongoing urban transformation, from the expansion of the Sydney Metro to pedestrianisation projects across the CBD, made the city a natural choice for the Summit. Its timing comes days before COP31 in Antalya, Türkiye, where Australia will serve as President of Negotiations.

Business Events Sydney is proud to have partnered with the Public Transport Association Australia New Zealand (PTAANZ) to secure the Summit, which is being held at the Hyatt Regency, Sydney, and is expected to attract 500 delegates and generate an estimated $1.2 million for the NSW visitor economy.

The summit will feature an international line-up of speakers, including Andy Lord, Commissioner of Transport for London; Seb Dance, Deputy Mayor of London for Transport; climate scientist and former Australian of the Year Tim Flannery; Alexis de Pommerol, Line Manager for Grand Paris Express; and Grégoire de Lasteyrie, Mayor of Palaiseau and Vice President of Île-de-France Mobilités. NSW Minister for Transport, the Hon. John Graham, will deliver the plenary keynote address.

PTAANZ Chief Executive, Lauren Streifer, said Sydney's transport transformation makes it an ideal stage for global leaders to shape the future of our cities:

"We stand at a defining moment in the history of our cities: the choices we make today will determine whether we lock in generations of congestion, emissions and car dependency, or transform how billions of people live, move and thrive.

"Against the backdrop of one of the world's most spectacular harbours, Sydney's extraordinary transformation across metro, light rail, electric buses and ferries, pedestrian precincts and cycling networks makes it the perfect stage to bring global leaders together and turn bold ambition into action that will shape cities for generations to come," Ms Streifer said.

Business Events Sydney CEO, Amanda Lampe, credited Sydney's ambitious public transport agenda and strong partnerships across government and industry for the conference win.

"Winning the Global Transport Leaders Summit for Sydney shows the power of collaboration between PTAANZ, the NSW Government and Tourism Australia.

"Beyond the $1.2 million economic boost, this event brings global transport expertise to our city at a defining moment, as Sydney reshapes how people move and Australia prepares to lead negotiations at COP31. The ideas shared here will leave a lasting legacy for our city and region," Lampe said.

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The Global Transport Leaders Summit was secured by Business Events Sydney in partnership with Placemaking NSW, Tourism Australia's Business Events Bid Fund Program and Destination NSW.

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About Business Events Sydney (BESydney)

BESydney promotes Sydney as the pre-eminent Asia-Pacific business visitor destination and acquires strategic business events that deliver economic and social impact for Sydney, NSW and global communities. We are independent and not for profit, supported by the NSW Government, City of Sydney and industry.

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