NSW

- Woollahra Council has selected a consortium from a shortlist of three for redevelopment of the Double Bay car park site on Cross Street. The consortium comprises developer Axiom Properties Limited with Built and Palace cinemas. The $200 million proposal involves demolition of the existing car park and construction of apartments, public and residential parking, retail space and a 10 theatre Palace Cinema complex.

- Home to the world’s biggest cinema screen, the IMAX Theatre at Sydney’s Darling Harbour will close on 25 September for 3 years in readiness for demolition and construction of The Ribbon, a new 6 star W hotel, serviced apartment, retail, entertainment and restaurant complex. The redevelopment will include a new IMAX cinema with 430 general seats and a 40 seat Gold Class theatre.

- Chinese developer Hailiang Group has submitted a stage one development application for a mixed use complex of up to 519 apartments for the Euston Business Park, acquired from Goodman as part of the company’s urban renewal divestment program.

- Expressions of interest have been called for ECI design/construct for the $87 million Gunyama Park Aquatic and Recreation Centre (GPARC) which will transform an industrial site in Zetland into Sydney’s largest aquatic centre to be built since the 2000 Olympics. GPARC will comprise three pools, fitness facilities and adjacent 16,550 sqm park consisting of synthetic multipurpose field, skate areas, playgrounds and BBQ areas.

- New proposed draft guidelines by the NSW Government for wind farms could mean that each development would be assessed on its own merits, with a sliding scale based on the height of the turbines and proximity to sensitive areas. For example, a 160m tall turbine would face difficulties being approved within 3 kilometres of a high significance visual influence zone. NSW is currently the only state without guidelines for wind farms after draft guidelines introduced in 2011 were not finalised.

ACT

- The ACT Government has announced it will award a 20 year feed-in tariff contract to the $200 million the NSW Crookwell 2 Wind Farm to be built near Goulburn by Union Fenosa Wind Australia. Crookwell 2 is the second NSW project to win a competitive feed-in tariff from the ACT Government. In March 2016, the 159 turbine Sapphire Wind Farm in Glen Innes secured a 100 megawatt feed-in tariff with construction expected to commence late this year.

- The ACT Government has released this month the CBD Renewal 2016-17 paper. The paper focuses on projects and services that are either underway or in the final stages of planning. Works already under construction include the Capital metro Light Rail Stage 1 and the Law Courts project, the ACT Government’s first public private partnership. Future projects mentioned are the ACT Government office building on London Circuit and the development of Point Park and the waterfront Precinct at West Basin.

VIC

- The Metro Tunnel development has this month announced the three shortlisted consortia vying to build the public/private partnership project which will provide five new underground train stations and become the largest public transport project in the state’s history. The shortlisted consortia consist of Continuum Victoria comprising of Acciona Infrastructure, Ferrovial Agroman, Honeywell, Downer EDI & Plenary Origination, Cross Yarra Partnership comprising Lendlease Engineering, John Holland, Bouygues Construction & Capella Capital, Moving Melbourne Together comprising of Pacific Partnerships, CPB Contractors, Ghella, Salini Impregilo, Serco & Macquarie Capital. The three shortlisted consortia will be submitting their proposals by early 2017 with the contract expected to be awarded before the end of 2017.

- The Victoria Government this month is launching “Better Apartments” a State Government initiative that will reform design standards for apartments to improve development quality. Discussion
paper submissions were due July 2015. Community forums have been held and the draft guidelines were released late 2015 and the final report has been handed to the Minister.

• Consultation on the draft apartment design standards is open for community and stakeholder feedback until 16 September 2016.


• Preliminary designs have been released this month for upgrades to intersections on Hoddle Street. The designs released show upcoming upgrades to four intersections with construction expected to commence in mid-2017.

• Parks Victoria will be moving to a new “green home” in Aughtie Drive in Albert Park. The office & depot has been designed by joint architects Harrison & White & Archier to blend into the natural environment with a green façade & heavy use of timbers. Parks Victoria will be moving in temporary accommodation late this year while construction of the new offices starts and it is expected that the new facility will be completed by the end of 2017.

QLD

• Selected tenders were invited this month for a Design and Construction package for the first stage of the Sharks Resort Hotel at Southport. The hotel is to be located within the existing Southport Sharks Australian Rules Football Club precinct. Stage 1 of the hotel is to include a lobby area, two levels of basement car parking, 120 rooms and a rooftop bar. The tender closes in September with ADCO Constructions, McNab Constructions, RCQ Construction and Condev Construction currently tendering on the project.

• Open tenders were advertised this month by the Gold Coast City Council for planning and design services for the Pimpama Aquatic Centre and Sports Precinct. The precinct is to be located at Heritage Park. The successful consultancy is to provide feasibility assessments, master plan and concept designs. The proposed precinct is to include an Olympic pool, 25m pool, learn-swim pool, gymnasium, 12 tennis courts, 6 netball courts and 3 multi-purpose sports fields.

• The contract for the construction of the Sandy Gully Bridge, located 6km north of Bowen on the Bruce Highway, was awarded to Vassallo Constructions in early August. The $20.5 million project was jointly funded by the Federal and State governments and is to include the construction of a 4 span concrete bridge and approaches. Construction works are expected to commence in late September and to be completed by late March 2018.

• The preferred tenderer for the Herston Quarter Health Precinct Redevelopment was announced in early August as Australian Unity. The redevelopment of the 4.8 hectare site is to be completed over 2 stages. The redevelopment includes the construction of new hospital, aged care and residential buildings, the redevelopment of existing heritage listed buildings, upgrades to Herston Road and construction new internal roads.

• Tenders were invited in mid-August for the $34.2 million upgrade to the Bill Fulton Bridge on the Cairns West Arterial Road. The project includes the widening the existing bridge and approaches from 2 to 4 lanes as well as the installation of the signals at the intersection with Brinsmead Road. The contract for the works is expected to be awarded in October with construction works expected to be well underway before the end of the year.

TAS

• The University of Tasmania is currently seeking funding to build a new science and technology precinct in Hobart. The project is only at very early planning stages.

• Lyons Architecture has been awarded a design contract for Stage 3 of the Living City Devonport Waterfront Redevelopment. The design will include the proposal to construct a hotel, 900 space car park, arts center, function center, extensive parkland & a marina.
SA

• A number of significant projects estimated over the $10 million mark have gone to EOI or Tender during the month of August. Expressions of interest invited for $12.8 million Gawler Town Hall/Institute restoration/conservation project, closing 5 September 2016. Tender for 162 Fullarton Road $15 million, Mixed Used Development, closed late August 2016. Roseworthy Grain Research Facility of approx. $10 million with tender to close 13 September 2016.

• The Veterans Mental Health Precinct at Glenside Campus for an Acute Inpatient Unit, incorporating the Centre for Excellence for Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD) & Research spaces. The project is estimated at $15 million with tenders closing 31 August 2016.

• The Adelaide New CBD High School estimated at $100 million has had additional funding granted to increase the size to another two levels to now make a 7 storey building. The tenders close 14 September 2016.

• The Minda Project at Brighton has also proceeded to Tender for what is now advertised as Packages A & B for Stages 2 & 3 (Approx. $80 million). Package A comprises the residential accommodation for 2 x 3 storey buildings & a Lifestyle Precinct, as well as two Towers (Eastern & Western) for Retirement Living & closing 6 September 2016. Package B is for 18 individual houses fronting Repton Road, also closing 6 September 2016.

• The Adelaide Festival Plaza Precinct is progressing with a Tender for the Northern Promenade Works & Cooling Tower Works ($12 million), closing 31 August 2016. Early road-works for approx. $21 million, to lower The Festival Drive as part of the Festival Plaza Precinct has recently been let to Lend Lease.

• The South Australian Government has also notified an early Tender Notice for Science Technology Engineering & Mathematics (STEM) Program of approx. $250 million. Approx. 140 schools will be involved. This is part of a State Government stimulus package. It is initially proposed that design teams will work with individual sites to develop the scope of work, identify preferred buildings to refurbish & prepare indicative estimates of cost. Procurement options for the construction phase are currently being finalized & briefing sessions will be provided during August 2016.

NT

• Pearl Marine Engineering has been announced as the preferred proponent for the East Arm Multi User Ship Lift Facility. Peal Marine Engineering is a consortium which includes KBR, SMEC, Bhagwan Marine and Macquarie Central. The Northern Territory government has previously announced it will invest $100 million to the project and has granted it Major Project Status.

• The heads of agreement have been signed for the Westin Darwin Luxury Hotel, with Landbridge announced as the Northern Territory Government’s strategic partner. The $250 million luxury hotel is to be located on 2.9 hectares of waterfront land. The hotel is set to include restaurants, retail, day spa, recreational facilities, gymnasium and swimming pool. Construction works are expected to commence next year and target completion has been set for 2020.

• Tenders were advertised this month for consultancies for the development of concept designs for the $30 million Zuccoli Primary School. The consultancy is to provide site investigation services, concept designs, room data sheets and a functional design brief for the new Public School over a 14 week period. The design is also to include joint use facilities on a shared site with Catholic Education.

• The contract for the redevelopment of the Larrakeyah Barracks and HMAS Coonawarra was awarded to Laing O’Rourke earlier this month. The redevelopment at Larrakeyah is to include upgrades to engineering services, accommodation and gymnasium facilities as well as the construction of new NORFORCE buildings and multi user facilities. Laing O’Rourke will take on the managing contractor role with construction works to be completed between 2018 and 2020.
WA

• The Western Australian Museum contract has been awarded this month to Brookfield Multiplex. The design of the museum was created by OMA & Hassel architects. The design has been unveiled to the public and includes energy efficient design together with architecture that will link the new with the old. The new museum will be around four times larger than the previous including galleries, exhibition space & retail & food outlets. Construction on the project is not expected to begin until 2017 and is scheduled to open to the public in 2020.

• Construction has begun on the Ritz-Carlton at Elizabeth Quay providing luxury accommodation to the waterfront at Perth. The $400 million development will comprise a 204 room hotel & 379 apartments across two towers. Probuild Constructions have been awarded the contract to construct the development.

• The East Perth Station upgrade construction has begun this month with $25 million in funding provided by the State Government. The redevelopment is part of the integrated transport solution for the new Perth Stadium. The design will allow a more modern and accessible station for commuters.

Mining

• Two major mining projects including the “The Northern Gas Pipeline” project have this month released tenders for various trades and services. The overall project is construction of a 622km gas pipeline which will connect Tennant Creek in the Northern Territory to Mount Isa in Queensland.

• The Amrun South of Embley Bauxite Project has also this month released tenders for various trades & services. The project by Rio Tinto is a greenfield bauxite operation in Far North Queensland the overall development project will eventually replace the existing mine centre and develop bauxite reserves available.

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