



## The Crane Industry Council of Australia

### Media Release

#### Construction Projects Essential

**26 March 2020**

The Crane Industry Council of Australia (CICA) welcomes the Federal Government stimulus package to support workers and small businesses but implores federal and state governments to do more to sustain the construction industry.

The construction industry in Australia is a significant contributor to the economy, producing nine percent of Australia's GDP and providing employment to approximately ten percent of the population. Small businesses make up roughly eighty percent of the construction industry and they need to be able to continue to work safely.

"Our membership is predominantly small businesses", says Brandon Hitch, CEO of CICA "and having cranes out on job sites is imperative to their survival.

Fast tracking planned projects is a way of maintaining upcoming works in the pipeline which is essential to prevent large scale collapse of businesses and major unemployment."

Historically, injecting investment into construction productivity has been an effective way for governments to boost economic growth, restrain inflation and institute full employment.

"The construction industry is not the only industry feeling the pain at the moment", says Hitch, "but it is an industry that will create beneficial infrastructure and jobs for Australia."

END