

Media Release

The Hon Ben Carroll MP
Minister for Industry and Employment



Friday, 3 November, 2017

MANTRA SETS UP A JOBS BOOM FOR MELBOURNE'S NORTH

A multimillion dollar hotel development in Melbourne's north will create hundreds of local jobs as the Andrews Labor Government gets behind communities affected by the closure of car manufacturing.

Minister for Industry and Employment Ben Carroll and Parliamentary Secretary for Tourism and Major Events Danielle Green today helped turn the first sod on the new Mantra Epping Hotel which will create more than 400 new jobs.

The \$70 million project is expected to bring 300 construction jobs and 120 ongoing hospitality jobs to Epping.

The 214-room hotel will feature a café and restaurant, bespoke brew house, conference and meeting facilities, gymnasium, as well as an open car park with 143 marked bays and secure bicycle storage.

The hotel will be located near the Northern Hospital and the newly-relocated Melbourne Market.

Construction of the new Mantra Epping Hotel will commence shortly and is expected to officially open in mid-2019.

The Labor Government is getting behind local auto workers in Melbourne's north thanks to the *Local Industry Fund for Transition* which has already supported 12 projects which are expected to create 327 jobs.

The recent *Melbourne's North Jobs Fair* helped connect 2,000 local jobseekers with 50 employers and more than 1,600 job opportunities.

A Skills and Jobs Centre at the Kangan Institute in Broadmeadows is also helping local workers find employment and retraining opportunities.

Quotes attributable to Minister for Industry and Employment Ben Carroll

"This is a welcome jobs boost for a community impacted by the recent closure of car manufacturing."

"Mantra Epping Hotel will be a state-of-the-art development, supporting jobs and tourism in a growing part of our city."

Quote attributable to Parliamentary Secretary for Tourism and Major Events Danielle Green

"This new development will be a prime tourism destination in Melbourne's north and contribute significantly to the region's growing visitor economy."