



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

STANDING COMMITTEE ON INFRASTRUCTURE, TRANSPORT & CITIES

MEDIA ALERT

Issued: 29 February 2016

Chair: Mr J Alexander OAM MP

Deputy Chair: The Hon M Thistlethwaite MP

Japan's high speed rail success

5.30PM TUESDAY, 1 MARCH 2016

With more than 2,300 kilometres of rail track and more than 100 million people using Japan's high speed rail each year, Australia could learn a lot about the technology behind it and its potential application.

Chairman of the [Standing Committee on Infrastructure, Transport and Cities](#) John Alexander MP said Japan has had great success with its network of high speed rail corridors over the last 60 years.

"As part of the [inquiry into the role of transport connectivity on stimulating development and economic activity](#) we will be hearing from the Central Japan Railway Company and the Embassy of Japan at Parliament House tomorrow," Mr Alexander said. "We will also be joined by Mr Torkel Patterson, Vice Chairman of the International High Speed Rail Association."

"We will be discussing Japan's lived experience with the development of high speed rail over the last 50 years, and the real impact this had on regional economic development and property prices. We will also examine the Shinkansen technology used to build Japan's high speed rail network, which has been used in several other countries, notably China and the United Kingdom."

Mr Alexander said that exploring funding mechanisms for Japan's high speed rail infrastructure will be a key focus for the hearing.

The inquiry will examine the likely impact of increased transport connectivity on property values and property-related tax revenues, options for the use of value-capture mechanisms to sustainably fund transport infrastructure, the role of government in establishing sustainable value-capture funding mechanisms, international experiences with capturing the value of high speed rail infrastructure, and the impact of high speed rail on urban and regional development.

Hearing details

Date: Tuesday, 1 March 2016

Time: 5:30 pm–6:30 pm

Venue: Committee Room 1R3, Parliament House, Canberra

MEDIA CONTACTS

Chairman Mr John Alexander MP (House of Representatives Standing Committee on Infrastructure, Transport and Cities) (02) 6277 4804

Further background information on the inquiry, including the full [terms of reference](#) and [how to prepare a submission](#), can be obtained from the Committee's website at www.aph.gov.au/itc or from the Secretariat on (02) 6277 2352 or itc.reps@aph.gov.au.