

AUSTRALIAN AUTOMOTIVE AND ROBOTICS PRECINCT

Statement by Minister for Lands

MR J.N. CAREY (Perth — Minister for Lands) [9.09 am]: I rise to inform the house of an important development in the Cook Labor government's work to drive innovation and job creation in Western Australia. I am pleased that the state government is collaborating with Autonomous Solutions Inc, ASI Mining, an American robotics industry leader, to provide land in Neerabup as the location for their Australian office. This strategic move aligns with their goal to gain proximity to the Australian Automation and Robotics Precinct located north of Perth.

ASI Mining is known for its autonomous robotic systems that play a significant role across various global industries, including mining, agriculture, automotive and construction. Their expertise in vendor-independent vehicle automation systems has earned them partnerships with major operators like Rio Tinto and Ford Motor Company. Key functions, such as autonomous haulage system, or AHS, oversight, deployment support, global technology support and AHS product management, will be operated from Neerabup. Construction has commenced on a state-of-the-art \$7.3 million common-user facilities operations building. The facility will encompass laboratory and warehouse spaces, as well as training and meeting rooms. Information technology will offer co-working and collaboration areas powered by emission-free solar energy connected to a battery and microgrid network. Those types of state investments are all about continuing to diversify the Western Australian economy and attracting more high-value manufacturing to WA.

The Australian Automation and Robotics Precinct continues to attract global interest from industries and innovators seeking state-of-the-art development, testing, training and demonstration spaces. The proximity to the innovation precinct and its facilities is an appealing factor for businesses, making Meridian Park in Neerabup an ideal location for ventures like ASI Mining. I am confident that the collaboration will foster innovation and growth within the state, providing opportunities for businesses to showcase and test cutting-edge solutions tailored to the state's key industries. ASI Mining's presence at AARP represents an opportunity for local and international innovators to work with and learn from some of the brightest minds in the field. The Cook government is committed to fostering growth, innovation and job creation. I look forward to the positive impact the initiative will have on our technology sector and diversifying our economy.