

Submission

No 59

INQUIRY INTO THE UTILISATION OF RAIL CORRIDORS

Organisation: Wollstonecraft Precinct

Name: Mr Gerald Raftesath

Position: Chairman

Date Received: 12/03/2012

Submissions to the Inquiry into the Utilisation of Rail Corridors

from

Wollstonecraft Precinct, North Sydney

Principal Submission: Facilitation of transit oriented development around railway stations

To encourage the greater use of train travel in place of car travel and so lessen the harm to the environment caused by excessive use of motor cars, there should be more car parking stations at or in the immediate vicinity of railway stations.

Wollstonecraft Station is a popular station as it is well-placed for commuters, particularly those from further up the North Shore and from the Northern Beaches which are not served by rail, and who consequently have to make part of their daily commute by car. However, at Wollstonecraft Station there is only one Railcorp owned, ground level parking area with very limited capacity. This has the result that parking spaces in the surrounding streets are taken up by such commuters, leaving fewer spaces for ordinary daily use.

The Wollstonecraft Precinct respectfully suggests that it would be of considerable benefit to the public if the parking capacity of this area, which lies to the south of Shirley Road and the east of the railway line and is immediately adjacent to the line, were to be increased. This could be done by the construction of a two or three storey car parking station on the site. The cost of this development could be recovered from parking fees.

Additional Submission: Provision of opportunities for mixed use property development

Noting the media report that soil samples have indicated that Railcorp land may make such land unsuitable for bushcare activities, the Precinct nevertheless believes that investigation may show that much Railcorp owned land not required for Railcorp purposes may well be suitable for use as allotments to be worked by individuals. There is precedent for this in other countries, notably to the Precinct's knowledge, in England and Holland.

The Precinct urges that this possibility should be carefully explored and not merely dismissed because in some places it has been ascertained that contamination makes land unsuitable for such a purpose. The media report does not say that all Railcorp land is subject to the same problem.

21 February 2012

L. Wollstonecraft
Chairman