

Submission

No 41

INQUIRY INTO THE UTILISATION OF RAIL CORRIDORS

Organisation: Commuter Council of NSW

Name: Mr Kevin Parish AOM

Position: Chair

Date Received: 29/02/2012

FROM KEVIN PARISH, OAM, CHAIR, COMMUTER COUNCIL
TO THE COMMITTEE MANAGER,
COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORT AND INFRASTRUCTURE
PARLIAMENT HOUSE
SYDNEY.

Thankyou for the opportunity to put the views of the council before your inquiry.
As explained below, this council was established in the early seventies and comprises representatives of commuter organisations.
After due consideration of this matter, it was discovered that there was a variety of opinions on this subject.
In general, members considered that the use of airspace above rail lines or beside rail lines was OK so long as due precautions were taken.
The primary consideration was safety. for example what would be the outcome of a derailment in the vicinity of a development.
Another important consideration was the restriction of any development on future passenger or freight use of a corridor.
For example the need for extra rail lines or roadways, the need for future extra commuter parking space or other commuter or freight facilities etc.

Regards
Kevin Parish

THE STRUCTURE OF NSW COMMUTER ORGANISATIONS

Please find below a brief introduction to the structure of NSW commuter organisations.

MAIN CENTRAL ORGANISATION

The Commuter Council of NSW was formed in 1976, and aims to ensure that the needs and wishes of commuters are properly identified and taken into account by decision makers.

In 1998 the council amalgamated with the Council of Commuter Organisation (formerly The Combined Commuter Organisations Forum) (which had been) formed in 1972.

The council has met at least monthly since its formation, and is attended by elected representatives from most public transport user organisation in NSW and seeks to identify and represent serious day to day issues common to most commuters.

FUNCTIONAL ORGANISATIONS

The Combined Commuter Organisations Rail Strategy Forum, was formed in 1972, meets monthly, and is attended by elected delegates from the main public transport user organisations in NSW, together with coopted individuals as well as a SRA representatives and discusses serious rail and rail feeder issues common to more than one commuter organisation..

The Inner Metropolitan Public Transport Users Forum, comprising representatives from various organisations with an interest in all modes of public transport in the Government bus and ferry area, together with an STA representative and SRA as required, was formed about 1978, and meets monthly

The Special Users Forum, was formed about 1978, and comprises real users with special problems or disabilities, from organisations with an indirect interest in public transport together with an SRA representative. Meets approx each second month.

REGIONAL ORGANISATIONS

Each region has a forum to enable representatives from organisations in that region to come together and discuss matters of concern. These are:

Northern Suburbs Rail Users Forum.

Illawarra Line Rail Users Forum.

Southern line Rail Users Forum.

Hunter Commuter Council.

Western Suburbs Commuters Council.

LOCAL ORGANISATIONS

The following meet locally about every two months:

The Central Coast Commuter Assn. (formed 1968)

The Blue Mountains Commuter and Transport Users Association, (Formed about 1970)

The East Hills Bankstown Commuter Council.

The Campbelltown and Districts Commuter Association

The Northern Suburbs Commuter Association

The Western Suburbs Commuters Association

The Richmond Line Traveler's Association

The Illawarra (suburban) Commuters Association

The Illawarra (intercity) Commuters Association

The Southern Highlands Commuters Association

The Hunter Transport Improvements Association

Action for Public Transport (formed about 1970 and meets weekly)