

**Submission
No 39**

COMMUTER CAR PARKING IN NEW SOUTH WALES

Organisation:

Name: Mr Braden Kohary

Position:

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Firstly, I wish to convey my disappointment at the lack of notice about this inquiry. I only found out about this from a letter from the Federal member of Greenway, the Hon. Michelle Rowland.

As a resident of the Ponds I have to commute to Sydney CBD each weekday. The choices are:

- 1) Bus to Rouse Hill Town centre, bus to the city
- 2) Drive to Riley T way bus stop, the bus to the city
- 3) Drive to Schofields station then train to the city.

At face value, this is a lot of choice and puts me at an advantage to most commuters in North West Sydney.

However, I also have children in Day care. Day care starts at 7am. This limits my choice. Option 1 is impossible.

But of option 2 and 3 I choose Riley T way, why? Because of commuter parking.

Schofields station is in the middle of a growing population and yet it has completely inadequate parking. Many cars are parking as much as 800 meters away from the station. This will only get worse as more people move into Schofields and Marsden Park. These ridiculous distances to park the car begin from 7am. Thus it is not practical for myself.

Riley T - way is slightly better. This important bus stop serves at the intersection of two city bound services - 607x and 617x. Yet by 7:45, it is completely full and requires parking in residential side streets. With the Metro arriving, even a 1000 car parking lot will not handle the number of commuters.

Castle Hill is another that will get worse. The introduction of timed/paid parking at Castle Towers (they are free to make this choice) means that commuters will have nowhere to park to catch a bus or metro. This will force those who can't walk to drive to other metro stations, adding to overcrowding.

The new car park at Cudgegong station will hold 1500 cars (unless I am mistaken). On paper this seems like a lot, but you have to factor in residents from 7 suburbs:

Rouse Hill

The Ponds

Schofields

Stanhope Gardens

Box Hill

Riverstone

Marsden Park

This station will be popular because not only is the parking free (making Rouse Hill station useless) but it's the first station and the best chance for commuters to get a seat. Schofields and Riverstone

both have stations, but the lack of frequent services (coupled with bad parking options) may push them to Cudgegong Station.

These are just a few examples.

My recommendation is that for any current projections on car park requirements, double or triple them. Because there has yet to be an example of a commuter car park in Sydney that has adequately catered for local residents.

Thank you