



MEDIA RELEASE

INQUIRY URGES GOVERNMENT TO BUILD PUBLIC TRANSPORT BEFORE APPROVING MORE HOUSING DEVELOPMENT IN WESTERN SYDNEY

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

29 April 2024

Portfolio Committee No.6 – Transport and the Arts tabled its report for the inquiry into current and future public transport needs in Western Sydney today.

Committee Chair, Ms Cate Faehrmann MLC said 'This report is a consensus report with members from all sides of politics coming together to make strong findings and recommendations on which we urge the government to act'.

Ms Faehrmann stated 'The committee found that there is an inequitable provision of transport options and infrastructure in Western Sydney. This is particularly the case for new growth areas in southwest Sydney, leaving many people without adequate access to jobs and essential services and entrenching socio-economic barriers experienced in some areas'.

'One of our key recommendations was for the Government to prioritise the public transport needs of existing and approved, but not yet built, areas in the outer fringes of Western Sydney before approving more housing development in those precincts. It's not good enough that many residents of southwest Sydney have no public transport options. The Government has got to stop approving housing development on the outer fringes of Western Sydney without commitment to or investment in public transport infrastructure and services', Ms Faehrmann added.

The Chair noted that 'The committee also recommended that the Government provide local councils with a legislated role in the planning and delivery of Transport-Oriented Development precincts in their local government area'.

'It became clear during the inquiry that Western Sydney residents need to be connected to more parts of Western Sydney, not just to the Sydney CBD. We've therefore recommended that the Government ensure that critical north-south rail connections are made and more stations are provided along these rail lines', Ms Faehrmann concluded.

The committee made a total of 4 findings and 20 recommendations to the Government. The government response to the recommendations is required by 29 July 2024.

The committee's report and other inquiry documents can be found on the committee's [webpage](#).

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