

Submission
No 28

THE TRANSPORT NEEDS OF SYDNEY'S NORTH-WEST SECTOR

Name: Mr Grant Eckett

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To whom it may concern

As a resident until two years ago of the Hills District and now a resident of North Ryde, I hereby lodge my submission on the following two issues:

- 1) Rail Services to the NW
- 2) Road conditions of the NW

1. RAIL SERVICES to the NW

Having been overseas last year I can certainly appreciate the value of a metro style service vs a conventional double decker cityrail service. The frequency of service makes public transport much more attractive as you don't need a timetable or need to worry about missing meetings or flights if you miss one train. That in itself means that it will eventually attract greater patronage that Cityrail services currently attract.

However, the route proposed by the idiotic State Labour government is fundamentally flawed. It is a half the original NW route and half the River City Line (City to Parramatta under Victoria Rd) proposed by Ron Christie (one very smart man) in his report on the state of the Cityrail network.

It needs to revert to following the Global Sydney Arc with its own separate connection across the harbour and through the city as originally proposed and out to the airport. This is where the trip generation will be at its most intense during the day (travel to meetings etc) outside of peak periods as it is where all the jobs are located (Norwest, Mac Park, Chatswood-St. Leonards, North Sydney, Sydney & Airport area).

This will also involve purchasing the stations along the airport line from the private sector and bringing the fares to the airport in line with the rest of the network. This will work without a doubt as the demand is there now and will only be greater in another 15 yrs.

2) ROAD NETWORK

The cashback scheme is blatant Labour pork barrelling and is now costing NSW \$100m per year. This from a government that is supposedly about reducing greenhouse emissions, yet it is actively encouraging the 200,000 users of this scheme to drive. Secondly, the M5 East was built with the stamp duty receipts coming from the NW growth area (Rouse Hill etc) and should have had a toll on it, which is again more Labour pork barrelling in the areas where it gets votes. This road should be sold to the private sector and tolled just like the M2, Lane Cove + Harbour Bridge / Tunnell.

Finally, the government must complete the bus transitway to Blacktown via Norwest to give the residents of western Sydney access to the increasing jobs market in Norwest & Castle Hill & vice versa. It must also finally upgrade showground road to dual carriageway with turning lanes (15 years overdue) and should consider building bus lanes from Baulkham Hills all the way down to Parramatta.

Thankyou for considering this response.

Regards
Grant Eckett