

Submission
No 122

THE TRANSPORT NEEDS OF SYDNEY'S NORTH-WEST SECTOR

Name: Mr Gareth Guest

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Dear NSW Transport Minister,

I am 21 years of age, I work full time in the City and I live in the Hills Shire.

For starters, myself and the other 99.99% majority of Hills population are notably VERY passionate and pissed off about this important un-ignorable, undeniable issue that directly affects our lives.

To be quite frank I've actually at points resonated with the idea of quitting my career aspirations in the CBD altogether and living on the dole or working at Coles. Perhaps this would give me a better quality of life than the current state of Hills NSW transport is offering me.

Public transport to the City from the Hills in my observation has proven more expensive than any other region in Sydney, and undoubtedly compared to all of Australia. Yet we get the worst value for money don't we?

I am a minimum wage low income earner yet I pay the same for public transport as any high income earner would pay. This means 8% of my gross salary goes towards catching the bus to and from work, yet this is apparently not considered a 'work related expense'. Amazing logic isn't it.

Transport to work takes a minimum of 10 hours out of my life every week, for which I am not compensated for. This takes away job satisfaction and reduces my motivation to work productively. This must surely be affecting the economy's productivity as a whole I'd imagine?

I often have to stand on the bus both on the way to work and on the way home from work. This means I arrive to work tired and already drained, thus putting more productivity stress on the Australian economy, and then the same applies when getting home. I have at times seriously considered buying a wheelchair and going to work as a fake disabled person so I don't have to stand. In all seriousness the chairs on the buses are way too claustrophobic for the average human to fit in.

I calculated I could effectively sponsor 6 Compassion children for a whole year with my wasted transport money. There you go, solving Sydney's NSW transport could also solve world poverty.

I fantasise about writing petitions and getting peoples signatures of concern, but quickly dismiss the idea being too afraid to break the public transport 'code of silence' where people have simply given up all hope of adequate state govt action on transport in the Hills.

I strongly (and rightly I might add) believe these are real issues that directly affect our quality of life both now and in the future and as such I am not passive about it.

Sincerely

Gareth Guest

Tax Paying Constituent of Baulkham Hills Shire