

Submission
No 8

THE TRANSPORT NEEDS OF SYDNEY'S NORTH-WEST SECTOR

Name: Mr Adam Reid

Date received: 22/09/2008

Baulkham Hills Shire Council residents and workers have long been neglected by the State Government in regards to transport infrastructure and support. In one hand the Government is happy to encourage the ongoing development of both business and residential land, with limited new land release opportunities in Sydney's North West and South West, however we're not prepared to commit to the funds required to build the transport infrastructure to support the development. Now boasting one of the largest business and population growth sectors in Australia, we need a long term transport solution. Whilst we recognise that the opening of the M2 and M7 Motorways and the recent upgrade of Old Windsor Road and Windsor Roads have improved access to and from the area (on the weekends), these roads were long overdue. But this is a stop gap measure to a growing problem - we're building better roads to encourage more people to drive to work when we should be building more efficient transport systems; to get people where they need to get to quicker. Baulkham Hills Shire Council already boasts one of one of largest number of vehicles per household and yet we have created more roads rather than implementing a rail network to reduce the number of vehicles on the roads and create a cleaner environment by reducing carbon emissions. As one of the many hundreds of thousands of travellers that spend 15 - 20 hours a week on Old Windsor Rd and the M2 amongst the gridlock and breathing in the exhaust fumes, we are crying out for a rail system that is critical to support the growth of the area and one that helps the environment. It's not surprising that Baulkham Hills Shire Council residents could be forgiven for thinking that the unfulfilled promises of a Rail system are a ploy to win votes rather than a ploy to meet a genuine and growing need. We need a Rail system now not down the track.