

**Submission
No 68**

**INQUIRY INTO PLANNING PROCESS IN NEWCASTLE
AND THE BROADER HUNTER REGION**

Name: Mr Finnbar Crennan

Date received: 16/10/2014

I am a triathlete and I have competed in many local, national and international events held at Newcastle foreshore. There is never enough parking for competitors (who have to bring all their gear) and the viewing public. Also the roads around the foreshore are often closed for the riding and running events. The heavy rail is an essential transport link into the heart of the foreshore. Even if it was replaced by light rail (whenever that might be built) this would not accommodate the number of people who come into the city for these events. All the heavy rail lines coming into the city are used. Newcastle foreshore is hosting various sporting events in 2015. What will happen for the logistics of local national and international events if the heavy rail is cut.?? it will cost a lot more to host and will be chaotic.

It feels to me that the people who have made this decision to cut the heavy rail have not thought clearly about the negative affect on many people, and on the reputation of our city as a great location for a sporting or cultural event. Or perhaps they do not care.