

**Submission
No 23**

**THE TRANSPORT NEEDS OF SYDNEY'S NORTH-WEST
SECTOR**

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Living in Castle Hill for the last 10 years I have seen both the numbers of people living in the area increase and the public transport options struggle to cope. I worked in the city from 1998 to 2006. I quit my job in the city at that stage entirely because I could no longer cope with the stress of catching the M2 bus into the city. I would catch the bus around 2km from the originating point and in the last year often had to board a full bus, so no seat for the over hour trip into the city. Passengers were crammed into buses like sardines. Also, you could never be sure if the next bus would have seats or not. Then, once you were on a bus, depending on the road traffic, it may take from 50 to 90 minutes to get to or from the city, the record being 3 hours when there was an accident. I now work in Parramatta, and although I would have better career opportunities in the city, it is ridiculous to allocate so many extra hours a day to travel. I suppose that at least the city HAS direct public transport links - areas like Chatswood, North Shore, Ryde have no direct links. We are being forced to live with medium density housing but are not being supported with decent infrastructure. I have even started to consider moving interstate, Sydney is a nightmare to get around and people are tired and cranky. I once thought I lived in the best city in the world but it is increasingly becoming a nightmare.