

Submission
No 75

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

Name: Ms Margaret Shields

Date received: 12/10/2008

The Director
General Purpose Standing Committee No. 4
Parliament House
Macquarie St
Sydney NSW 2000
Fax: (02) 9230 3416

gpscsecretariat@parliament.nsw.gov.au

Re – Submission

Dear Sir/Madam,

I wish to make a submission to be considered during the North-West Sydney Transport Inquiry being conducted by the General Purpose Standing Committee No. 4.

We have a lack of Public Transport in the ‘Hills area’ and our road systems are in urgent need of improvement and additional funding is needed for upgrading.

Without the use of a car, residents of the ‘Hills area’ are seriously disadvantaged. Bus fares are expensive and the tolls on the M2, Lane Cove tunnel, Harbour Bridge and Harbour Tunnel, etc do not have a refund system in place, unlike other schemes available to members of the public who use the M4 & M5.

My family and I presently live in Galston (Hornsby Shire), a small rural village 8 klms by ‘car’ via narrow and winding (and environmentally beautiful) Galston Gorge to Hornsby Station.

Our local 'privately' operated bus service has a 'limited' service which takes passengers to Castle Hill Shopping Centre (13.6 klm) then onto Pennant Hills Station another (6.klm), a one way journey of (19.6 klms).

A change of bus at Round Corner, Dural permits connection to a 'very restricted' timetable City bus Express service to the City (this service **does not** operate all day, weekends or evenings).

The narrow roads (New Line Road and Old Northern Road) leaving the area are very congested during the morning and evening peak periods. Lack of traffic lights, etc and safe turning at intersections add to frustration and delays.

Several large private schools are located in the Dural area and they generate enormous amounts of traffic movements during morning and evening peak periods often causing grid-lock conditions on the roads in and out of the district.

The Hills area's population is growing very quickly with new homes being built and businesses opening up, adding to the pressure for better transport options.

A 'train service' in the Hills area would provide an alternative transport option.

These changes could help the environment and improve peoples well being.

I support the comments made by Baulkham Hills Shire Council in their submission to your enquiry.

Thank you for considering my comments.

Yours sincerely,

Margaret Shields.