

**Submission  
No 98**

## **INQUIRY INTO SYDENHAM-BANKSTOWN LINE CONVERSION**

**Name:** Mrs Carmel Elliott

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I would like to make a submission against the Sydenham to Bankstown heavy rail---the ridiculous downgrade to an automated rail line.

I have lived at Hurlstone Park for 20 years (after 12 yrs at Summer Hill). This rail Line has been operational since 1896. Why in 2010 is it the bottle neck of the city rail line?

The community were threatened with station closure in 2016, this left many in the community vulnerable to this TERROR .I stood quietly and watched closely listening as the Govt Contracted Consultants interacted with the Hurlstone Park train travelers (over and over again). It mostly was as : “No..We are not closing your station and we are going to provide you WITH LIFTS!” Sadly this resulted in very appreciative responses. ....(THIS IS NOT INFORMED CONSULTANTION)

The Government has not consulted with residents between Sydenham and Bankstown concerning the downgrading of our heavy rail to a minimal seated rail which REMOVES a valued line. Those travelling on from bankstown to Liverpool were never consulted. Those of us that alight at St Petes/Erkineville/Redfern/Townhall etc..... were never consulted/ Many highly recognized experts do not recognize that this conversion from heavy rail to automated light rail is a financially and a clever option. Those of us, the community have been totally ignored.

I live less then 50mt from the line, I state that the community consultation has been abhorrent. As a community, Hurlstone Park residents still do not know what is happening to our station. The overbridge on Garnet St rail bridge has had a fence structure installed which highly visually detracts from the close situation to the heritage conservation area in both HP and Dulwich hill areas (no consultation/ no respect of heriaage vicinity). I cringe to see what THE centre bridge of our village will become!

Both HP and DH Stations have been recognized as heritage items yet the nasty yellow/orange signs Sydney Rail have erected on our stations do not respect the heritage items. One rule ...for some.....?

A rail line that has functioned for over a century should not be replaced to benefit developers. Please do not let this change occur. Listen to the experts.... Removal of this line leaves the actual City CBD system at a loss of one more line to integrate when a line goes down.

As a resident of the old Canterbury council, I expect that everything I have said will be discounted. Our council was seen as corrupt, the residents are now being punished. There is now no councils meetings held in the Canterbury area. The new council/ largest in Aust barely recognizes Hurlstone Park.

It is nice to think that a senate inquiry will make a difference///// The govt has already started the devastation. Many Local have HEARD Frogs at Hp station.....Developers are the only ones that count

Regards

Carmel Elliott