

**Submission
No 146**

INQUIRY INTO PRIVATISATION OF BUS SERVICES

Name: Mrs Lola Sharp

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Our particular interest is route 373 from coogee, our lifeblood to the city, each part of it, from Taylor Square to Elizabeth Street - which gives us access to Maquarie Street and the hospital, state library and various medical practitioners. More importantly, access to Circular Quay where we can meet friends from east, west and north of the Sydney - or access the ferries.

My question - why should a population which has had direct bus service from Coogee to Circular Quay now be forced to change from one very efficient form of transport to either two forms of transport or a very long walk to Circular Quay.

We represent an area of both grey-haired elderly people who have worked, brought up our children in these beach areas, and now remain as carers to grandchildren. Would the parliamentarians like to tackle two lots of public transport with Zimmer frames or walking sticks. Or what about the young mothers, managing babies, strollers or toddlers. Or what about school children lugging heavy backpacks, musical instruments and trying to navigate public transport from a fairly young age. Their parents know that they are fairly safe on one form of transport, beginning to end..

Your government has forgotten that you are there to serve the public and public transport is exactly that.

However, we the public, are here to vote. You owe your positions to what you can efficiently provide to the public. And this cost-cutting measure to our bus service to force people onto light rail, which is of no direct value to them, is as heartbreaking as it is ridiculous, two forms of transport for the forward journey and two forms to return home, people hanging around in all sorts of inclement weather with insufficient bus stands, elderly people have falls, younger mothers pay extra fares, all for the sake of an inefficient government.

There is much more we could add but remember. We are the voters, and your job is to provide the most efficient, effective transport to all members of the public. And you are failing us badly.

Ron and Lola Sharp.