

**Submission
No 178**

INQUIRY INTO PRIVATISATION OF BUS SERVICES

Name: Mr Greg Walsh

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The community has until recently been well served by the public transport system.

The bus drivers - the interface with us, the passengers - are always courteous and helpful. The latest wholesale changes to bus routes in the eastern suburbs have resulted in a loss of service for me and, I would think, also for the majority of people living within the Coogee basin.

Bus route 373 from Coogee Beach previously (for decades) terminated at Circular Quay/Museum of Sydney. It now takes you only as far as Museum Station (Liverpool St). To access Circular Quay, or destinations within the CBD, the choice for me is to walk to High Cross Randwick, or catch a bus, to join the tram at its terminus. However there is not a convenient bus/tram interchange there. Nor, remarkably, are there any direct linkages between the 373 and the tram anywhere along the tram route, even though the two modes run cheek by jowl right along the edge of Centennial Park and through Moore Park!

I fear that the privatisation proposal will not redress the present situation; but only exacerbate it. Service will be subjugated by private profits.