

## INQUIRY INTO PRIVATISATION OF BUS SERVICES

**Name:** Name suppressed

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Partially  
Confidential

I have been a resident of Randwick/Coogee for the last eight years and have relied heavily on public transport during that time to get me to work in Circular Quay, the Inner West, and the Inner City. I've used the buses - 314, 372, M50 - to get me to medical appointments in the CBD and Bondi Junction and to see family across the city.

The enormous disruption caused by the installing of the light rail several years ago (when a 20-minute express bus trip to Circular Quay would take up to an hour) has still not been offset by an efficient system or timetable.

I resent being shoehorned onto a service that doesn't take me where I need to go in a direct or efficient way. I am not close enough to the start of the Light Rail line in Randwick so have a 20-minute walk to get there with the only alternative to wait 10 minutes for a bus that might not come and that will then take another 15-minutes to get to Belmore Road.

I can't imagine having access needs or being in a rush for an appointment or having to negotiate multiple transfers to get somewhere that a now-cancelled bus would have otherwise taken me without trouble.

I am able-bodied and fortunate enough to have access to a car if I need it, but exorbitant tolls and parking in the CBD and the general impact of heavily used roads on the environment, are all reasons to want to catch public transport.

The cancellation of major bus routes and the reduction of services - which feels like it was done under the cover of COVID-19 - is beyond infuriating. I have never felt 'stuck' or 'isolated' living where I do but going to my bus stop last Saturday morning, wanting to get to Potts Point, and having to wait 15 minutes for a 373 - the only bus now frequenting my stop that used to have the 314, 372, 373 and M50 all stop there - was honestly appalling.

If you want thriving communities; people to feel connected; accessible services - why would you strip out a major set of services? These decisions are clearly nakedly financial and political and have been made with zero regard for the community at large. These services need to be reinstated.