

Submission  
No 1

**INQUIRY INTO CURRENT AND FUTURE PUBLIC  
TRANSPORT NEEDS IN WESTERN SYDNEY**

**Name:** Name suppressed

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Partially  
Confidential

I have grown up in the Penrith area of Western Sydney all my life and there has been little advancement of our public transport system, forcing many like myself to rely on my own vehicle to get around. This is a key reason for parking availability in our community.

Growing up, to get the bus to the train station would take approximately an hour. The same distance in a car is about 10 minutes.

The train to the city was approximately an hour so adding an additional unnecessary hour was not of any desire or benefit.

After traveling and discovering underground networks such as London and Paris, it's disappointing that Sydney has not progressed into upgrading our transport system to reflect efficient public transport systems foreign cities have adopted.

Whilst I appreciate that to add an underground network in Sydney at present day would be an ambitious request, as Western Sydney continues to grow particularly with the addition of the western Sydney airport, it would make sense to plan for the needs to connect western Sydney seamlessly through such a network.

Right now, to get from Penrith to Campbelltown via train, you just go to Blacktown in another direction and switch trains. There is no direct route other than to rely on driving.

I know that if there was an underground network as significant as ones like in London, public transport would be much more appealing to the community.

Having had lived abroad for many years and utilising their underground network and not ever owning a car in those 8 years, returning to Penrith forced me to rely on having access to a car.

Not only would such a significant piece of infrastructure benefit our entire community in regard to ease of transport, given the cost of fuel and car maintenance, people would benefit from reducing private transport costs with cheaper but reliable public transportation.

This would in turn lower vehicle emissions and create significant employment opportunities to a community that generally relies upon commuting to the city for reliable employment and income.

Western Sydney continues to rapidly grow, and the current lack of reliable public transportation will increase road and vehicle use.

Alternatively, if this ambitious proposal is not feasible, perhaps CBD areas/high streets such as in Penrith could benefit from a driverless tram system to connect the suburbs with the CBD area.