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

Name:Name suppressedDate Received:22 August 2023

## Partially Confidential

Dear honourable enquiry members,

I live in the Blacktown LGA, one of the fastest growing areas in Western Sydney with a population over 425,000 people this year and a forecast to grow by more than 46 % in the next 2 decades.

I love where I live. Being the 4th most multicultural area in Australia, Blacktown has much to celebrate when it comes to its diversity. However, with an increasing population and limited transport infrastructure it's time we make the right decisions now to ensure our future citizens easy and accessible ways to access areas of importance in their LGA and greater Sydney as a whole.

I would like to see more connectivity in our foot and bike paths, allowing pedestrians and cyclists to move without the need to constantly cross roads or dismount and mount again when moving throughout the LGA to key access points (stations, shopping centres, restaurants, parklands, etc.). Giving walking a cycling a preference over cars in and around our CBDs will also help to encourage more exercise, less car congestion and cleaner air.

I would also like to see more frequent bus services along main connector roads in our LGA or the investment in light rail options along key thoroughfares. For example, Richmond road between Blacktown and Marsden Park is a traffic nightmare on most days, what if a light rail was to be installed down the centre of road to incentivise public transport use in place of cars.

These are also opportunities to reclaim roads for mixed use paving/plazas which can accommodate more trees to help shade our walking, cycling, bus and light rail corridors which will help to repel heat and keep our city cool during the warmer months.

I look forward to having this submission heard by the enquiry members and tangible actions taken in Blacktown, and indeed across Western Sydney as a whole.

Thank you for your time.