



PCU50188



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Development Assessment Systems & Approvals  
Department of Planning and Infrastructure  
GPO Box 39  
Sydney NSW 2001

Attention : Director  
Infrastructure Projects Branch

**Submission : CBD and South East Light Rail Environmental Impact Study**

Dear Sir / Madam

The proposed light rail seems to be aiming to provide express transport to and from the city for sporting areas and events, and for UNSW. With the elimination of most bus services beyond Randwick / Kingsford, and the very few light rail stops, the public transport needs of the whole range of residents seem to be of secondary (or no?) importance. There is certainly little regard for transport needs **within** this whole area, beyond a direct route to Central.

In order to provide this system there are serious environmental and heritage impacts.

**A. Lack of Environmental and Heritage Protection.**

The proposal seems to make **no effort** to allow for environmental and heritage protection. Even though there are heritage spaces and items, parkland areas and trees that are highly valued in this whole area, a ruthless determination to just smash anything in the way in order to proceed with the light rail seems obvious.

The proposed line to Randwick will clearly have major impacts along the whole route, even from its approach to the western section of Moore Park. **Surely there could be changes to prevent such devastation from this project.**

**1. Moore Park.** The intrusion into Parkland and the removal of so many trees is a hugely undesirable impact, in all respects. Clearly your proposed built form is unsympathetic to the quality of the environment and its current uses. You are proposing some significantly large and permanent alterations to the Parkland.

**Solution?** Use the existing bus road only and do not have overhead wires.

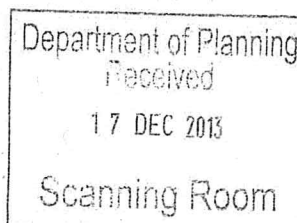
\* Already you have a shared bus / light rail section, and you seem to be cutting most bus services anyway.

\* If George Street has trams free of overhead wires, surely other parts of the line should be the same. If the distance between stops is too far for this there is an obvious solution. Maybe then we could think this is not just for the sporting / events industries and UNSW!

**2. Tay Reserve, Randwick Racecourse, Alison Road. Wansey Road.** This whole area contains environmental and heritage elements of value, but no apparent concern for the proposed impacts.

**3. High Cross Park.** How can your proposal for here be seen as anything other than vandalism? High Cross Park is a lovely public open space, containing a war memorial and very significant trees. It is highly valued. Your proposal for an interchange, and the concreting of whatever may remain, is simply vandalism. High Cross Park must be left untouched. Your proposal '... would be a major heritage impact ..' [p338 in Volume 4, Tech Paper 5 of your Heritage Impact Assessment.]

**Solution?** Relocate this whole interchange to within High Street. You would then also have a stop for the Prince of Wales Hospital, an astonishing omission from your current proposal.



## **B. Use of this consultation?**

I saw your proposal in the Randwick shopping Centre on the 20th April 2013, and at Randwick Council on the 3rd of September and the 30th November 2013. At that last session I asked if there had been any changes to the proposal following the previous opportunity for public comment. That seemed to be a difficult question, apart from the decision to cross under Moore Park via a tunnel.

It is impossible to understand why you have compiled such a massive document for this Environmental Study if it is simply to ignore 'major' heritage / environmental impacts. But it is also hard to believe that there is a concern for those impacts, after hearing the consultants outline cost or other difficulties for changes that had been wanted at Wansey Road and the racecourse.

I did not have any sense that the consultation was really wanting to look to making changes. I certainly hope that I am wrong with that impression, and that you are genuinely looking to respond to issues and concerns raised by residents in this area.

