

Diane Sarkies - North West Rail Link

From: Philip Cooper <philip.coops@gmail.com>
To: <plan_comment@planning.nsw.gov.au>
Date: 29/11/2012 9:53 PM
Subject: North West Rail Link
CC: <office@smith.minister.nsw.gov.au>

Dear Sir/Mdm,

I write to provide my feedback on the proposed North West Rail Link (NWRL) as outlined by Minister Berejiklian.

As a resident of Beecroft I am severely negatively impacted by the NWRL as is presently proposed. Not only will I now have to catch three trains to get to the city as opposed to currently one, the consequence of this poorly considered proposal will be to negatively impact property values in all of the suburbs along the Northern Line north of Epping.

I find it difficult to understand why it is good planning to inject in the middle of our current double decker city rail system, a single deck train line that is not able to link in with the rest of our rail network. Whilst, with the benefit of hindsight it may well have been better to have started our commuter rail system with a single decker train, the fact is we didn't and the obvious longterm disruption and cost of trying to change this to a single decker train system is simply madness.

Other cities that have faced the problem of increasing the frequency of train arrivals with a double decker train have been able to do so without an illogical decision of having two independent systems operating simultaneously in the one commuter rail network. For commuters traveling to the city on the Northern Line between Epping and Normanhurst this madness is particularly difficult. They will be faced with having to negotiate a three train journey simply to get to the CBD. This is completely unacceptable, especially compared to the majority of Sydney commuters that are rightly able to travel to the CBD on one train with a few having to negotiate two trains. Three train connections are in themselves unacceptable but on top of this will be the absolute pandemonium that will be created at the Chatswood interchange where this "stand alone" will terminate. Already, Chatswood platforms are extremely crowded during peak hours. This added madness of "ALL OUT ALL CHANGE" of this planning proposal, would create a situation where commuters will inevitably be unable to catch a transfer in a reasonable time but worse, dangerous conditions will be created on Chatswood platforms.

I sternly urge that this proposal be re-considered in favour of building the NWRL to accommodate the same train model that the rest of our metropolitan train system uses.

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