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October 25th 2012

Epping to Thornleigh 3rd track proposal number 551 5132

The Director, Infrastructure Projects (Epping to Thornleigh Third Track proposal) Dept. of Planning and Infrastructure GPO Box 39 Sydney 2001

Dear Sir,

Although I live on the other side of Beecroft Road, and will not be personally affected by the noise and mess of the proposed changes to the line though Cheltenham, I do have strong objections about the proposals for Cheltenham Railway Station. The design for the new station is unbelievably ugly for starters! The present inclined path on both sides of the station is ideal for the elderly, parents with prams, and those with walking difficulty. Stairs are impossible for them, and it is useless having a lift which will be quickly vandalised, and frequently out of order.

The statistics given in your display mentioned parking places running into a figure of about 200, and "not fully utilised". I would like to know how many kilometres away from the station these parking places are supposed to be? The local streets are not "parking places" and should not be choked with commuters' cars. Visitors and tradesmen seeking access to the local addresses have nowhere to park if the streets are lined for kilometres with commuters' cars. The present parking spots are barely adequate on weekends and holidays, forcing a huge overflow into the streets on working days. Obviously your statisticians did not visit during peak working times. The provision of taxi and bus places in the proposed plan is very strange, given that neither of these forms of transport visit the station. The planners have not investigated very thoroughly! Sloppiness in this one area, for me, casts doubt on the whole plan.

We need the third track, obviously, so let them put it underground, and all the objections of local residents will fade away. It is such a short length of track, that it should not cost as much as the massive work of rebuilding two railway stations and two bridges, and upsetting thousands of locals.

Yours sincerely,

Charm hetthem

Dawn Nettheim

Department of Planning
2 6 OCT 2012
Scanning Room