

urbanrenewal - imminent disaster

From: "eddieb" <ehboards@bigpond.net.au>
To: <urbanrenewal@planning.nsw.gov.au>
Date: 4/19/2013 11:17 AM
Subject: imminent disaster

Before closer of submissions I add this to a previous email on the subject of the imminent closer a of very valuable piece of transport infrastructure.

Reports in the Newcastle Herald, dated 16th April 2013, clearly show why we need to retain the rail line into the Newcastle CBD.

The report says about **3000** students and **200** staff will use the new Business and Law facility of the Newcastle University legal precinct. Should the rail terminate at Wickham it would be predictable that a large number would prefer to use vehicle (cars), rather than change modes of transport over a kilometre away. Add to this the new precinct will have to be serviced, trades people, deliveries, visiting lecturers, all requiring transport, again the motor vehicle. Take a look at the parking problems that presently exist at Callahan and you would see the chaos that is going to occur in the Civic area.

Rather than spending millions on a closure *why not spend that money improving what we already have*. If it is possible to put rail under Sydney harbour surely an *underground from either Hamilton or Broadmeadow* could be achieved and perhaps in the future extended underground to Stockton and above ground to the 80 million expanded Newcastle airport. We could still have a green corridor above the rail, a win win situation.

While other cities around the world are expanding their rail infrastructure why are we going the opposite way?, instead of satisfying the few look outside the square and make Newcastle transport the envy of others, improve on what we have.

I ask you to read the *Online Comments* of the Newcastle Herald 16/4/2013 re Rail for campus.

In the past few years I have become to appreciate what we have, I enjoy rail travel in all its forms. Driving in to Newcastle is becoming more difficult, or should I say parking is becoming more difficult, so the rail offers an alternative. My mobility is getting such that changing transport on any journey is not my preference.

On behalf of the future please consider carefully the changes that are being proposed.

Eddie Boards.