



PCU042330

#7 Blackbutt Parade
Katoomba NSW 2289
Newcastle

5th March, 2013.

Management + Urban Renewal
Department of Planning + Infrastructure

Department of Planning
Private

8 MAR 2013

Scanning Room

Dear Sir,

RE: NEWCASTLE RAIL LINE

I am one of the many supporters to retain our wonderful rail line + wonder why you are requesting feedback now, instead of before your decision was made.

We can see any advantages at all as the Forster is readily accessible now to people.

The quick 4 minute trip from Wickham Station, stopping at Levee Station to Newcastle Station is way ahead of prolonged bus transport up Hunt Street which would be a check back and there are no bus shelters all the way. And with the Uni + new bus house planned the train would be so advantageous.

Taking the rail would cause so much inconvenience. County people, locals, maid and commuters who work in the city are big users of the train in peak hour morning + late afternoon; more carriages having to be put on. If rail cut, most people would resort to their cars to avoid changing to buses, increasing the traffic.

Wheelchair users, families with strollers, teenagers with surfboards, bicycle riders - how would they cope? Now there are only two lots of 3-4 seats available in buses (cater for 2 strollers at most. Imagine the chaos trying to fit, even small crowds, into buses.

The cost involved in cutting the rail would be colossal as it appears it now includes 4 stations - Broadmeadow, Hamilton, Wickham + Newcastle. No detailed plans have been disclosed, it just seems a decision was made to please a few influential people.

Newcastle Station is in an ideal place, flat, accessible to all, no traffic issues, why destroy this safe, reliable train system. Will be interested to see all the protester comments, hope they will be available.

Please reconsider + leave our rail in place

Yours sincerely, Iris Davidson
(Mrs B. Davidson)