

urbanrenewal - a city for people, not cars!!

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Subject: a city for people, not cars!!

I am currently undertaking a master of architecture at the University of Newcastle. As someone who actively engages with, and critiques my urban environment every day - and who designs for people every day - I can clearly see what this "renewal strategy" really is. A blatant land-grab. Has the state government listened to any expert, who actually knows what they're talking about, has to say? it doesn't seem so.

Removing this portion of the train line is more likely to kill the city than renew it. Newcastle CBD already has a huge number of cars trying to get around it every morning and afternoon. People will not want to change from a bus to a train. removing the train line will make it harder for people to choose not to drive. we should be making it easier for people to choose not to drive.

**The train line divides the city no more than Hunter St itself does.
If you add more cars to Hunter St, there will be an even greater division of the city.**

A stronger urban renewal plan would be to remove 2 lanes of traffic on Hunter St, rather than the train line, and put the same scheme in that corridor.

But the people who make all the decisions, only experience the traffic congestion at the level crossing on Stuart Ave, and live at Merewether, Dudley or Charlestown. Who's day to day life wont be affected whether the train stays or goes.

If you love Newcastle, keep the train.

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