

urbanrenewal - Objection to Cutting Rail

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Subject: Objection to Cutting Rail

To whom it may concern.

I vehemently disagree with the proposal to cut the rail line at Wickham.

I live in East Maitland and I use the intercity rail, cutting this would be a great inconvenience not only to the hundreds of thousands of Hunter Valley, Lake Macquarie residents as well the new residents that purchased in ocean and harbour front apartments like the Royal who will see their route out of the city cut. It would also be a disservice to the businesses, restaurants and bars I and many like me frequent.

The traffic in Newcastle is near gridlock at peak period, there are few parking options so to add thousands of extra vehicle movements will create gridlock. Therefore I could not imagine the traffic chaos to be created by 12600 more residents and 10000 workers and no rail line.

Of my many friends residing in Newcastle only a few were ever supportive and only because of being held up at level crossings. Also they believed the original and misleading announcements of open spaces, now they have seen the concrete jungle plan they do not support it either.

What would be supported is the building of a bridge from Hannell Street at or near Honeysuckle Drive to Stewart Avenue, this would free up traffic along King Street, Hunter Street and create a seamless transition from Hannell Street onto Stewart Avenue. As the first and most beneficial step to revitalise Newcastle this bridge should be built.

This announcement of the 22nd of February 2013 was poorly communicated as I meet people that have no idea what is proposed.

The proposal is itself just poor planning and if it was to proceed would inconvenience hundreds of thousands for the benefit of a few.

PS: Let's not forget Adamstown Level Crossing...Build another bridge!!!

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