

urbanrenewal - Newcastle renewal.

From: Jen <jen165@gmail.com>
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Subject: Newcastle renewal.

I am all for Newcastle Renewal. I disagree that a few Cafes umbrellas and trees, kicking out elderly people and cutting the rail will do that.

Some underpasses or overpasses over the rail for cars push bikes and pedestrians are needed. Safe push bike lanes are non existent in Newcastle CBD.

Moving the CBD is a good idea but is it financially viable? Do businesses want to move? Newcastle court does not need to be in inner city, but moving it away moves people away from Newcastle. RNH has gone and that took a lot of people with it.

Hunter Street is the biggest problem. It is too long, It has too many derelict buildings. The building owners have to be held accountable for these eyesores. Perkins Street Theater in particular, it is rotting. Hunter Street is not an attractive street to visit any more; where as it used to be the hub of the city (with a train line), and why was it? Because people wanted to be there. For the shops the Cinemas the Civic theatre the Mattara, the Mall.

Hunter Street now 2013 can not compete with Charlestown Square and Kotara Westfield. It needs a new attraction, it needs people, it needs a reason to visit. Closing up Newcastle's two most central train stations will not achieve this.

Newcastle is unique because its train line does go nearly to the beach. Advertise that..... "Come by train to Newcastle, affordable theatre at Civic, concerts at Honeysuckle and the foreshore, Yacht Races @ Wickham, multicultural days at Hamilton". All stations to Newcastle , with something happening all the time. Leave your car at your connecting station, catch a steam train to Newcastle. Use some imagination other than cafes umbrellas and trees.

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Newcastle born and bred.