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**Subject:** Newcastle rail line

I have just heard about the call for submissions. Mine is late but is simple. Here in Sydney we are projecting to spend billions of dollars in building train lines, tram lines, slot roads and everything in-between. it seems insane to remove expensive and existing infrastructure such as heavy rail. Generally I travel outside peak hour but twice recently in Sydney i have been forced to do so and it has taken my almost half an hour to travel two kilometres by bus. If Newcastle is to thrive in the future a healthy public transport system that can coexist with cars and buses will be essential to its success.

Do not hamstring Newcastle's future commercial growth from the outset.

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(n.b. I have family in Bar beach and Merewether so am keenly interested in Newcastle's wellbeing).