

Rail Line into Newcastle Proposal

We would like to put forward a different proposal for the retaining the rail into Newcastle for consideration

Step 1

Electrify the line to Maitland (Telarah) and utilise the railyard at Telarah for parking and cleaning of the trains, This a fast growing area of NSW. Telarah has about 4 lines suitable for this without effecting the northbound freight lines, additional parking would be available east of Maitland station, as utilised previously in the days of steam. Maitland station is very suitable for the Sydney trains as it already has four platforms.

It is about 26 years since the introduction of electric trains to Newcastle

Step 2

With the electrification to Maitland completed, **pull down of the overhead power lines from Hamilton/Broadmeadow into Newcastle, remove the fencing, fill in between the tracks to allow pedestrian access across the track in nominated locations in the city.**

Rail services to be retained into Newcastle with the railmotors (change their name to "lightrail" trains with the addition of side skirts) that currently run from Dungog and Muswellbrook and addition services can be provided from Morisset into Newcastle with railmotors to cover for the loss electric services into Newcastle.

Step 3

Broadmeadow railyard would become redundant as the electric trains and railmotors would be relocated to Telarah **and this land could be sold to help finance the project.**

Maintenance of the railmotors would also be relocated from Broadmeadow to any of the following locations Dungog (regional development) East Greta Junction Greta (new facilities approved)

Other proposals to consider

New station at Aberglasslyn to service a fast growing area

Extension of a dual rail line from Telarah north to Oakhampton (past Aberglasslyn) for the standing of freight trains. This relocation to north of Telarah would help to alleviate the problems in Adamstown with long northbound freight trains parked across level crossings, also these freight trains are too long when waiting at Telarah to proceed northbound on the single tracks, they block the line into the Telarah parking area

Re establishment of the rail services to Cessnock and the vineyards (old South Maitland Railways)

The use of single car railmotors in offpeak times and more frequently

We trust that you will review this proposal and would be pleased to discuss any aspects and look forward to an outcome