

urbanrenewal - The Newcastle Rail Line

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Subject: The Newcastle Rail Line

The announcement of the University of Newcastle campus and the new court house complex at "The Civic" in Newcastle is great news for the city. One of the most important services the students and people attending the courts is transport, both public and private.

With the new court precinct already being criticised for inadequate parking, the influx of students as well will only make the parking situation chaotic and therefore people will want to turn to public transport only to find out they will have to change at Wickham to travel a short distance to their destination by bus. This is absolute madness. Rail is energy efficient and moves high volumes of passengers without causing traffic congestion and will drop students and people attending the court complex and Newcastle Museum at the front door.

The claim by politicians, businesses and developers that the rail line cuts Newcastle in half is a lie. There are many tall buildings already doing this. At grade crossings could be installed giving access to Hunter Street and the rail line would be in place when light rail is feasible for Newcastle to replace the heavy rail.

There are many more worthwhile projects this money could be used for and the government is letting the City of Newcastle and surrounding areas down by removing the rail line, leading us to traffic and parking chaos.

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