

From: michael woodcock <michael.woodcock.1@gmail.com>
To: <letters@theherald.com.au>
CC: <urbanrenewal@planning.nsw.gov.au>, <office@premier.nsw.gov.au>, <office...
Date: 2/28/2013 11:52 pm
Subject: NEWCASTLE RAIL IN CBD -- newc-rail-poem-1 -- (tunnel visions)
Attachments: 101-poem-1-intro-23 feb 2013.pdf; 102-newc-rail-6-feb-2013-102.pdf; newc-ra
il-poem-1.pdf; newc-rail-poem-2.pdf; newc-rail-sketch-201.pdf

28 february 2013.

to - newcastle herald

dear editor,

please find attached some of my material which is largely an involuntary response to those who, it seems, would think that the cure for toothache is decapitation. they want to terminate the intercity rail and other rail services at wickham, but nobody can explain the "logic" behind this destructive proposal.

why spend money to "trash" a good system, one that is good-looking too, and will increase in heritage value as time goes on.

[the existing railway is the spine of the peninsula that is east newcastle. there are even buried historic "goods" rail tracks, sometimes exposed, in the dunes alongside nobbys beach]. visitors should have to pay a fee to stop and relax and have a cup-a-tea, while watching the poetry-in-motion that is any of the level crossings, from civic to adamstown!

"if it ain't broke don't fix it", especially when funds are scarce.

perhaps the treasurer could speak on this topic.

so mister premier of nsw, and other ministers, what we need at this early-late stage [depending how long you have lived in the hunter valley] is ideas - ideas - ideas.

let us hope that by the closing date of 17 march 2013, just a few weeks away, some excellent urban renewal ideas have appeared in the "mailboxes" of the department of planning.

let us pray that the majority of folk are against "termination" of any of the current rail services. most people i talk to are against such termination". if the silly people do not smarten-up i will reluctantly have to write some more poems -argh-argh-argh!!diesofheartattack...
your humble servant - michael woodcock @ bedtime.

101-poem-1-intro-23 feb 2013

13 January 2013, text below as email to Editor of "Herald".

23 February 2013, minor revisions.

email to "Newcastle Herald"

Dear Editor,

The attached text document includes a poem which should speak for itself, and relates to the non-option of the government's proposed demolition of the last 2 km of the existing railway [between Wickham and Newcastle stations] which would deprive locals and visitors of valuable journeys which they currently enjoy.

Any option that reduces the standard and utility of the current services [to a level below that existing] must be a "total knock-out in the first round". That is to say such options are totally rejected, by "we, the people".

Thinking laterally, if the rail alignment is moved sideways to be under King Street, new stations could be built at and under Birdwood Park and Civic Park, leading to all sorts of opportunities and benefits.

A new rail terminus under King Street [alongside Cathedral Park] with pedestrian connections above and below ground through the Hunter Street Mall zone [with trafficable skylights] and onwards to Queens Wharf, is likewise a very exciting prospect.

Please see attached sketch plan PSK201 which was first issued 30-06-2009.

from - Michael Woodcock.

From - Michael Woodcock

i could shout all day, we all agree the rail should stay, until we find a better way. [poem 1 coming later]. in other words we must use our collective imagination to think light years beyond boring "cut the rail at wickham, 2 km from the current newcastle terminus, and put on some super-doooper buses." we want win-win-win results which are the best of the best, and equal to or better than the current rail system.

any proposals must be totally acceptable to people such as the following existing groups.

1--- workers in lawyers' offices in bolton street, who commute by train from maitland to newcastle.

2--- handicapped folk in wheelchairs [wheelies] living in stockton. who can at present travel all the way to sydney airport, under their own-steam, by means of ferry to queens wharf, on to newcastle station, then by train to sydney central and on to airport.

3--- surfers carrying their boards on the train from cardiff to newcastle, with the beaches within walking distance.

4--- visitors or residents of newcastle east, who can easily go to sydney central, just by walking to newcastle station and taking the train.

newc-rail-poem-1. (13 january 2013).

GO WITH THE FLOW,
GO WITH THE GRAIN,
KEEP AND IMPROVE OUR PENINSULAR TRAIN.

BUT IF SOMEONE WILL PAY,
TO BUY RAIL "RIGHT-OF-WAY",
MOVE THE ALIGNMENT TO KING STREET
AND RAIL TUNNEL AWAY.

WITH VERY FAST TUNNELLING,
THE FUTURE TRAIN
WILL ZOOM UNDER NOBBYS,
CATCH THE WILLIAMTOWN PLANE.

Mr. Michael Woodcock,
Unit 5,
55-59 Griffiths Street,
Charlestown. N.S.W. 2290.
Tel. (02) 4943 6969
Mob. 0417 427 022

NEWC-RAIL-POEM-1

GO WITH THE FLOW,
GO WITH THE GRAIN,
KEEP AND IMPROVE OUR PENINSULAR TRAIN.

BUT IF SOMEONE WILL PAY,
TO BUY RAIL "RIGHT-OF-WAY",
MOVE THE ALIGNMENT TO KING STREET
AND RAIL TUNNEL AWAY.

WITH VERY FAST TUNNELLING,
THE FUTURE TRAIN
WILL ZOOM UNDER NOBBYS,
CATCH THE WILLIAMTOWN PLANE.

Michael Woodcock.
13 January 2013.

Mr. Michael W. Woodcock,
Unit 5,
55-59 Griffiths Street,
Charlestown.
NSW. 2290.
Tel. (02) 4943 6969
Mob. 0417 427 022

NEWC-RAIL-POEM-2

GET SECOND METROP-AIRPORT “FREE”
WHEN YOU BUY A V.F.T.

Michael Woodcock.
28 February 2013.

Mr. Michael W. Woodcock,
Unit 5,
55-59 Griffiths Street,
Charlestown.
NSW. 2290.
Tel. (02) 4943 6969
Mob. 0417 427 022

THERE WERE C'MOTIONS AT TWO STATIONS
FOR THE "GOS" WAS GOING AROUND
THAT THE PLANNERS FROM THE SMOKE WERE COLOURING-IN.

WITH HOBs AND FSRs, AND SPECIAL BUSES BUT FEW CARS
THEY PLANNED TO CUT THE RAIL AT WEST-END (WIKISUCKLE) AND
TO BUILD TOWERS 26 STOREYS INTO THE SKIES
ABOVE A RAIL-BUS DEPOT OVERSIZE, WICKHAM TRAVELLING IN DISGUISE.

TO PAY FOR THIS WAS SURELY BLISS, TO STEAL THE HEALTH AND VIEWS
AND WEALTH OF EAST-END FOLKS WHO DON'T LIKE JOKES ABOUT THEIR
RAIL WHICH GOES SO CLOSE TO HARBOUR, HOME, AND BEACH AND SEA.

CUT OUR RAIL AND WE'LL CUT YOURS, AROUND ABOUT THE GOS AT FORD.
SO SMARTEN UP FELLAHS, FORGET THE BACKROOM ZONING DEALS, THEY
WILL FAIL WHEN THE FIRST MANIPULATOR SQUEALS.

THE PASSENGER PEOPLE ON THE TRAIN, ARE WHERE-ITS-AT, THE EVENT
MAIN, WHO MATTER MORE THAN ONE IOTA, BECAUSE THEY ARE THE ONES
WHO VOTE-AH.

AGREED WE NEED SOME STIMULUS FOR OUR ECONOMY TO GO AHEAD, BUT
WHY SPEND SO MUCH ON WICKHAM? LET IT SPREAD, LET IT SPREAD.

USE THE "CARROT" NOT THE "CHOP" OR NOBODY ONLY WILL COME TO SHOP
(OR WORK OR PLAY). G'DAY.

PS1. Where is the report from the department of transport?

PS2. Where do the authors say what effect cutting the rail would have on the timetable?

Michael Woodcock.
15 March 2013.

Mr. Michael W. Woodcock,
Unit 5,
55-59 Griffiths Street,
Charlestown.
NSW. 2290.
Tel. (02) 4943 6969
Mob. 0417 427 022