



Ann-Maree Carruthers
Team Leader, Strategic Assessments
NSW Department of Planning and Infrastructure
GPO Box 39, Sydney NSW 2001

Department of Planning
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Scanning Room

DOC13/162752

Dear Mrs Carruthers,

RE: North West Rail Link - Draft Structure Plans

Thank you for the opportunity to respond to the public exhibition of the Structure Planning for the North West Rail Link Activation Precincts.

Given the housing densification levels that are expected and the geographic regions in which they would occur, it is likely that the project would result in significant pressures on existing schools to accommodate new demands. Our analysis indicates that new schools may be required.

It is noted that the draft *Metropolitan Strategy for Sydney to 2031* identifies schools as essential infrastructure and includes planning for schools where existing facilities cannot support new school enrolments.

Based on recent discussions with the Department of Planning and Infrastructure, it was my understanding that the draft *North West Rail Link Corridor Strategy* would include a stronger reference to schools planning as part of the strategy. However there is no specific consideration or mention of schools in the draft documents.

I request that the NSW Department of Planning and Infrastructure amend the draft *North West Rail Link Corridor Strategy* to include proper consideration of education infrastructure and to ensure consistency with the draft *Metropolitan Strategy for Sydney to 2031*.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide feedback at this early stage of the project. Please contact Martin Karm, Statutory Planner on 9561 8147 or martin.karm@det.nsw.edu.au should you have any further questions.

Yours sincerely,

Tony McCabe

Director, Planning and Delivery

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23 April 2013