

Transport for NSW
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SUBMISSION FOR THE DRAFT FUTURE TRANSPORT STRATEGY AND THE DRAFT GREATER SYDNEY SERVICES AND INFRASTRUCTURE PLAN

We submit our response on the above named plans. The submission covers the area bounded by Allen Street, Conway Avenue, George Street, and Powells Creek, North Strathfield ("North Strathfield"). We thank you for this opportunity to make a submission.

We believe North Strathfield will benefit greatly by having a Sydney Metro West stop at North Strathfield. We fully support a Metro line running through our area, interchanging with the T1 Northern line at North Strathfield.

We agree with the priorities of Transport for NSW, being that infrastructure should support the three cities model. North Strathfield is strategically placed as the mid-point between the Sydney CBD and Parramatta. It also falls on the western boundary of the Eastern District and the eastern boundary of GOPP. Its close proximity to two of the three cities makes it strategically important.

North Strathfield is already serviced by four heavy rail stations (North Strathfield, Concord West, Homebush and Strathfield) however the potential addition of the Metro would enhance and optimise the level of service in the area, reduce overcrowding on the Western line, and meet the demands of forecast growth in the area. It will also reduce traffic load with greater public transport options.

We believe the Metro is the most appropriate form of public transport through our area as:

- ✓ The Metro will be underground and therefore there will be limited home acquisitions
- ✓ An underground Metro will be quiet so no impact to properties near it
- ✓ It will be a mass transit system and will move many people quickly so will cut travel times for many people
- ✓ Facilitates a transport interchange with heavy rail and cycle ways

There are a number of reasons Transport for NSW should include a Metro stop at North Strathfield:

1. Supports the concept of a 30 minute city

North Strathfield is central to many districts including:

- Olympic Park (growth area) - 1.8km
- Concord Hospital (proposed Concord Medical Precinct) -2.9km
- Rhodes Business Park - 2.7km
- Burwood Business District - 2.8km
- Parramatta - 11km
- Sydney CBD - 14km
- Macquarie Park - 11km

The addition of a Metro in the area will assist commuters reaching their destinations in the shortest possible times. Both residents and business centres will benefit from the short travel time through increased productivity and liveability.

2. Provides for a Better Integrated Transport System

North Strathfield station is walking distance to at least 3 train stations – Concord West, Homebush and also Strathfield so a Metro stop would also provide a good link to other transport nodes.

It would also provide more direct access to the growing Sydney Olympic Park via an interchange with the T1 Northern Line to those travelling from the north. This would be a significant improvement on having to change at Strathfield for a train to Lidcombe and then a change to Olympic Park.

3. Supports the Movement and Place Framework

A Metro station at North Strathfield supports the Movement and Place Framework. North Strathfield is an important interchange of transit modes and as can be seen from below, and is also a key area for a revitalised town centre, schools, businesses, parks, recreation and cultural activities.

Movement

North Strathfield is located next to the start of the new WestConnex tunnel and as such is accessible to Sydney's motorway system, and quick vehicular access to the CBD. Bus routes are easily accessible via Underwood Rd and Concord Rd. Bike and walking paths through Bicentennial Park link North Strathfield easily with Olympic Park and the proposed new Parramatta Light Rail Stage 2. As already noted North Strathfield is walking distance to 3 other train stations. This key interchange of transit nodes makes it an appropriate place for a Metro stop.

Supports the Movement and Place Framework (cont.)

Places

Bakehouse Quarter

North Strathfield is home to the Bakehouse Quarter. Whilst already a significant town centre (40,000 sqm of commercial, retail and entertainment) it is proposed for significant redevelopment. The Bakehouse Quarter was purchased in 2017 by the Yuhu Group (also developers of the Pymble Corporate Centre and Eastwood shopping Centre). According to The Australian Financial Review Yuhu said that:

" that they were attracted to the Quarter because of its mix of strong tenancies including Aldi, IGA and Fitness First as well as potential development opportunities to convert the site into a new hub or township on the back of the NSW government's Parramatta Road Corridor Urban Transformation. "

A Metro in the Area will provide the infrastructure to support the redevelopment and population growth.

Schools

North Strathfield is within the catchment of two relatively new schools, not yet at capacity, Victoria Avenue Public School (K-6) and Our Lady of Assumption Catholic Primary School (K-6), as well as three established schools, St. Ambrose Catholic Primary School and North Strathfield Public (both K-6), and The McDonald College (3-12) all of which are within walking distance for residents. There's also four child care centres spread along George Street, making it ideal to support a growing population. North Strathfield is also within easy access to a large number of public and private high schools:

Public - Homebush Boys High (1.8km), Strathfield Girls High (1.7km), Concord High School (2.3km)

Private - McDonald College (in North Strathfield), St Patricks College Strathfield (1.9km), Meriden (2.3km), Santa Sabina College (2.3km)

In addition the Australian Catholic University is located only 2km away.

A Metro station at North Strathfield would assist the large number of predominantly high school students and university students access their schools quickly. In addition parents could easily access the Metro station for travel to work after dropping their children off at Primary school or Child Care.

Supports the Movement and Place Framework (cont.)

Places

Health Services and Aged Care

North Strathfield is already serviced by a large number of doctors and dental surgeries located in both North Strathfield, Concord and Strathfield. It is also located approx 2.0km from Concord Hospital and the proposed Medical Precinct. This close location to significant medical infrastructure makes it the ideal location for both young families and an ageing population. Its close location to the proposed Concord Medical Precinct, and both private and public schools would also make it an ideal location for the staff of the Concord Medical Precinct to reside.

Parks and Recreation and Cultural Facilities

North Strathfield is located next to Bicentennial Park - 40 hectares of parkland including wetlands, lake, playgrounds, bicycle tracks, picnic shelters, BBQ's, bike hire, Cafe, function centre, bird watching and monuments.

North Strathfield and its neighbouring suburb of Concord has access to some of the best social and cultural facilities in Sydney. Located within North Strathfield and a 2km radius are the following facilities just to name a few:

- ✓ Bressington Park - sports fields and cultural remembrance area
- ✓ Sports Fields and Clubs - Edwards Park, Queen Elizabeth Park, Briars Sports Club, Powells Creek Tennis Centre, 4 gyms
- ✓ Olympic Park - concerts, events, sporting and cultural
- ✓ Canada Bay Library and Five Dock Library - hosts authors evenings and speakers
- ✓ Majors Bay Rd - shops, restaurants and cafes' and banking
- ✓ Churches - 13 Churches of different denominations
- ✓ Concord Farmers Market
- ✓ North Strathfield Mens Shed
- ✓ Kokoda Track and Memorial Walkway
- ✓ McDonald College - Australia's Leading Performing Arts College

North Strathfield is a place with a wide array of facilities and transport options. However, the T1 Northern Line is at capacity and therefore many people from our area will use the Metro relieving both the T1

Northern and indirectly the T1 Western line. The relieving of this congestion will allow for significant further growth. This supports the movement and place framework.

4. Best Use of Assets and Resources

North Strathfield is located approximately 12- 15 km of the proposed innovation corridor (Camperdown to Pyrmont). This area is accessible from North Strathfield by public transport or car. Improvements to transport links through the addition of a Metro and completion of WestConnex will improve the already short transit times to these areas.

North Strathfield is located approx 2km from Concord Hospital and the proposed Medical Precinct. This close location to significant medical infrastructure makes it the ideal location for both young families and an ageing population. Its close location to the proposed Concord Medical Precinct, and both private and public schools would also make it an ideal location for the staff of the Concord Medical Precinct to reside.

Directing resources towards North Strathfield will support the objectives and priorities of Transport for NSW and the Greater Sydney Commission through its Draft Eastern City District Plan.

5. Other - Convenience and Liveability

We support the supplementation of heavy rail and the Metro with alternative forms of transport such as on street public transport, walking and cycling tracks. We believe this will encourage the push for vibrant centres with safe streets.

Planned pedestrian bridges over Powells Creek and cycleways will further enhance the liveability of the area giving residents easier access to more open space and adding to the transport option for commuting short to medium distances.