



Media Release

David Campbell MP

Minister for Transport

Minister for the Illawarra

TENDERS CALLED FOR LIGHT RAIL ASSESSMENT STUDY

The NSW Government is investing \$3.6 billion in 626 new train carriages for commuters. .

Embargoed until Saturday 5 September 2009

Minister for Transport David Campbell today called for tenders from organisations interested in carrying out a light rail extension assessment study.

Mr Campbell said the call for tenders followed support from four local councils, Ashfield, Marrickville, Leichhardt and City of Sydney, to make a contribution towards the cost of the study.

“The Government is looking to engage a qualified and experienced consultant to examine the costs and possible benefits of an extension of the current light rail line to the Inner West and into the CBD,” Mr Campbell said.

“A project steering committee has been established to oversee the study and each council is represented along with NSW Transport and Infrastructure, RailCorp, the Department of Planning, Sydney Metro and the RTA.

“The committee will ensure that integrated transport is an important focus for the study and stakeholders will also be given the opportunity to submit their views to the study.

“As I have previously outlined, the study will look at capital investment associated with the proposed extensions, as well as demand, technical issues, integration with other public transport, operating costs and any other impacts.”

Member for Balmain Verity Firth expressed her strong support for the light rail, and said the study would provide the Government with the most up to date information.

“As a long-term supporter of a light rail extension, I am delighted that this study is progressing. The Government is committed to delivering better public transport for residents of the inner west and this study will allow the right decisions to be made,” said Minister Firth.

“Minister Tebbutt and I have lobbied Minister Campbell for this study, and I am delighted that the he is acting on the desires of the local community. The light rail corridor has already been preserved whilst the study is being undertaken, and I thank the Minister for his swift action on this matter.”

Member for Marrickville Carmel Tebbutt said the study would take around six months to complete.

“Light rail has the potential to offer a clean and efficient transport link between Dulwich Hill and Central,” Minister Tebbutt said.

“I have always supported light rail as part of a mix of transport solutions to Sydney and this is a great opportunity to look at whether it would be viable.”

Anyone interested in expressing interest in the tender should visit: <https://tenders.nsw.gov.au/nsw/>

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