



Media Release

David Campbell MP

Minister for Transport

Minister for the Illawarra

ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT RELEASED FOR SYDNEY METRO STAGE-1

Wednesday, 9 September 2009

The biggest construction job in Sydney's CBD since the building of the Harbour Bridge has moved a step closer, with the release of the EA (Environmental Assessment) for Sydney Metro Stage-1, Central to Rozelle.

NSW Transport Minister David Campbell said the lodging of the EA was a milestone for the project, which would form the spine for Sydney Metro Stage-2, Central to Westmead.

"This is the biggest project undertaken in the CBD, in terms of scale and complexity, since the construction of the Sydney Harbour Bridge," Mr Campbell said.

"As with the Harbour Bridge, the Sydney Metro network is set to revolutionise the city and boost our standing on the international stage.

"The EA's release follows extensive community feedback and reveals all of the options for the six stations and various construction locations."

Mr Campbell said the EA set out new options for stations including:

Pymont: A new alternative plan for the Pymont Metro station would see Union Street Terraces retained including the facades and the bulk of the buildings. Only a section at the rear of the terraces would be removed to house essential station services. The plan would save the terraces, extend the size of Union Square and potentially return a Victorian-style building to the site that was knocked down some years ago.

Rozelle: The altered plan would create a public plaza at Rozelle, which will showcase two of the local churches and provide walkways underneath Victoria Road.

Mr Campbell said he anticipated enabling construction works to start by the end of summer.

"Following the public exhibition of the EA, all public submissions will be considered by the Director General of Planning and Sydney Metro will prepare a response to the issues raised in those submissions."

Mr Campbell said as part of today's announcement the Government was also publicly releasing computer generated footage, which planners had used to map out the tunnel route.

"The footage provides a new perspective on this landmark project, which will change the face of transport in Sydney forever," Mr Campbell said.

Mr Campbell released the EA in Wynyard Park, itself an historic construction site that was excavated to build the Wynyard railway station in the 1930s.

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“Back in those days, steam shovels and horse and cart represented cutting edge technology – thankfully, modern construction methods are far quicker, more efficient and importantly for Sydney far less intrusive,” Mr Campbell said.

The Environmental Assessment goes on display today and can be viewed at either the Department of Planning website or via www.sydneymetro.nsw.gov.au

He said more community information days were being held in September to give people the chance to learn more about the project and to ask questions of Sydney Metro staff.

For details on the information sessions and the project itself visit www.sydneymetro.nsw.gov.au or call 1800 636 910.

The Environmental Assessment will be exhibited locally until 12 October at:

- Department of Planning.
- Nature Conservation Council of NSW.
- City of Sydney Council.
- Leichhardt Council Citizen’s Service Centre
- Leichhardt Library
- Balmain Library
- Pyrmont Community Centre
- Ultimo Community Centre
- Rozelle Neighbourhood Centre.

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