



Media Release

David Campbell MP

Minister for Transport

Minister for the Illawarra

SYDNEY METRO TO DELIVER NEW PUBLIC PLAZA AND PEDESTRIAN LINKS FOR ROZELLE

Wednesday, 9 September 2009

Sydney Metro has released plans for a new public plaza and heritage gateway to be created as part of the Rozelle metro station.

NSW Transport Minister David Campbell said the plans focus on the use of new open space that would be created on the Balmain side of the Victoria Road / Darling Street intersection.

Mr Campbell said the station plans were being put on public display following today's release of the Environmental Assessment for Sydney Metro Stage-1, Central to Rozelle.

"The proposal for the entrances to the Rozelle metro station shows what a great opportunity exists to provide new open spaces for the community," Mr Campbell said.

"St Paul's Presbyterian Church and St Thomas' Anglican Church will be opened up to greater public view in a new heritage gateway, delivered by the Sydney Metro."

Key features for Rozelle include:

- Two proposals for new pedestrian facilities – a new walkway under Victoria Road and Darling Street, and a new bridge over the Rozelle railway yards from Lilyfield Road to the Rozelle foreshore and Blackwattle Bay.
- A metro station building on the northwest corner of the intersection, designed to be in keeping with the Rozelle Village's streetscape.
- Excellent connectivity between bus and metro services with new bus stops.
- No additional development planned for Rozelle Village and no changes to building heights.
- Some retail/café opportunities off the station entrances.

Acting Sydney Metro CEO Rodd Staples said urban design specialists had prepared a station plan for Rozelle and other stations along the 7km route and public feedback would play an important role.

"These historic buildings will form the backdrop for vibrant public plazas, with a café possibly situated alongside the metro entry points on the edge of the greened public space," Mr Staples said.

"With the historic buildings of Rozelle Public School nearby, opening up this area and emphasising its buildings will help to confirm it as a heritage precinct.

"The new open spaces would take advantage of the high pedestrian activity in the area generated by the local shops, weekend markets, metro and bus services."

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Mr Campbell said plans to construct two underground walkways at Rozelle would benefit a large number of pedestrians who use this area.

“This will include a walkway under Darling Street on the eastern side of Victoria Road as well as a walkway under Victoria Road on the northern side of Darling Street that is completely separated from traffic and is safe and easy to use.

“Another local benefit is the proposal for a new pedestrian and cyclist bridge to be constructed from Lilyfield Road to White Bay, to provide pedestrian and cyclist access to the Rozelle foreshore and also to the light rail station.

“This bridge will be provided as part of work on a depot for metro trains to be located at the Rozelle railway yards.”

The EA also outlines in detail how construction impacts on the local area will be minimised.

Mr Campbell said community information days would be held during September to give people the chance to learn more about the project and to ask questions of Sydney Metro staff.

The sessions will be held:

- Saturday 19 September - Balmain Town Hall, 9am to 2pm.
- Thursday 24 September - Masonic Centre, Sydney CBD, 3pm to 8pm.
- Saturday 26 September - Maritime Museum, Darling Harbour, 9am to 2pm.

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

- Leichhardt Council Citizen's Service Centre.
- Leichhardt Library.
- Balmain Library.
- Rozelle Neighbourhood Centre.

For further information for location addresses and opening times visit www.sydneymetro.nsw.gov.au or call 1800 636 910.

Following the public exhibition of the Environmental Assessment, submissions will be considered by the Director General of Planning. Sydney Metro will prepare a response to the issues raised in the submissions. The Director-General of Planning will then provide an assessment report to the Minister for Planning, who will make a decision on the project and, if approved, will set conditions of approval.

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