The NSW Government has announced a new underground metro railway line will be built between Parramatta and the Sydney CBD to help cater for Sydney’s growth.

Sydney Metro West will provide a direct connection between the CBDs of Parramatta and Sydney, linking communities not previously serviced by rail as well as supporting growth between the two major CBDs.

This state-of-the-art railway helps address Sydney’s rapid growth, with the city’s population to increase above 6 million in the next 20 years.

Sydney’s west is growing the fastest, requiring new transport infrastructure to keep up with more people and more jobs.

An extra 420,000 people are expected to move into the corridor between Greater Parramatta and central Sydney over the next 20 years.

More than 300,000 jobs are expected to be created in this corridor by 2036. This includes an extra 145,000 new jobs in the Sydney CBD.

Sydney Metro West will integrate with long-term transport planning for Western Sydney including rail needs currently being investigated around the future Western Sydney Airport.

The new railway is expected to be built largely underground and operational in the second half of the 2020s.

The NSW Government will work with industry, the community, businesses and local stakeholders like councils along the route to get feedback on potential station locations and the best outcomes to serve Sydney for the next century and beyond.

Transport for NSW will begin engaging with community, industry and key stakeholders in early 2017 to get feedback on the project.

More rail capacity

- The existing T1 Western Line – which is more than a century old – is expected to be severely overcrowded by the early 2030s, despite ongoing upgrade works and more services.
- Currently, it moves around 40,000 people in the morning peak hour and is operating at 135 per cent seated capacity.
- New metro rail will be able to move about 40,000 people an hour in each direction.
- Sydney Metro West will work together with the T1 to service the growing needs of Western Sydney, effectively doubling the rail capacity of the Parramatta to Sydney corridor.
- The project also means faster and more frequent services will be able to be delivered on the Sydney Trains network from outer western Sydney areas like Penrith and Blacktown, with increased capacity for those customers into Parramatta and the CBD.

Servicing key precincts

The final number of potential stations will be identified following community and industry consultation. Four key precincts to be serviced have initially been identified at:

- **Parramatta**, where the number of jobs is expected to double over the next 20 years to 100,000;
- **Sydney Olympic Park**, where 34,000 jobs and more than 23,000 residents will be located by 2030;
- **The Bays Precinct**, Sydney’s new innovation hub where 95 hectares of land is being regenerated; and
- **The Sydney CBD**, allowing easy access to the existing public transport network and Stages 1 and 2 of Sydney Metro, which is currently under construction.
New rail for new communities across Sydney

The Sydney Metro West project will focus on a corridor between the Parramatta River and existing T1 Western Line, because of the greater potential to transform communities, create new ones and link them using a new state-of-the-art public transport system.

The NSW Government will integrate transport and land use planning along the corridor.

The project supports the Greater Sydney Commission’s vision for a Central Parramatta River City that’s connected to the established Eastern Harbour City by providing improved travel times and service frequency between these two CBDs.

The NSW Government has identified the need for the project and committed to delivering it.

Beyond this corridor, opportunities to extend the line east and west will also be considered.

• Sydney’s population is currently 4.6 million and in 20 years it will jump to more than 6 million.

• Western Sydney is home to about 47 per cent of Sydney’s residents, 36 per cent of Sydney’s jobs and one-third of Sydney’s Gross Regional Product.

• An extra 420,000 people are expected to move into the corridor between Greater Parramatta and central Sydney over the next 20 years.

• More than 300,000 jobs are expected to be created in the corridor between Greater Parramatta and central Sydney by 2036.

• By 2036, 3.2 million people will live in Western Sydney – a population about the same size as Adelaide and Perth combined today.

• By 2036, over 50 per cent of Greater Sydney’s population will live in Western Sydney.

• There are currently more than 4.7 million weekday trips using all transport modes to, from and within the Greater Parramatta to central Sydney corridor, with just over one million trips during the AM peak period alone. This is expected to increase by 36 per cent in 2036.