

BUS EXPRESS

News and views from life in the bus lane



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RTBU NSW Tram and Bus Division



RTBU stands up against North Sydney depot sale

The RTBU's Tram & Bus Division has taken a stand against the Government's plans to sell off the North Sydney bus depot.

Division Secretary Chris Preston spoke to the Sydney Morning Herald, warning that the plan could mean longer delays for commuters when Sydney's public transport system breaks down and emergency buses are needed.

"The state government's plan to sell off the depot will mean commuters will have to wait longer on those all-too-frequent occasions when Sydney's public transport system breaks down and emergency buses are needed, says a former depot driver and union official."

Read the full *Sydney Morning Herald* story on the Bus Express website: <http://busexpress.com.au>

Too long between buses for Tempe residents



More than 40 residents picketed the Tempe Bus depot last week in protest against a cutback in local bus service:

The community are very upset about closures of bus stops along the Princess Highway and the reduction of some daytime services which go to Marrickville and Dulwich Hill throughout the day. Older residents are particularly disadvantaged by fewer services during the day as they relied on buses to do the shopping and get to various appointments.

Residents first raised these problems with STA management about a month ago and were reassured the Authority would get back to them. The community said they never did.

RTBU Bus and Tram division and local drivers support locals in their campaign for better services.

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Dulwich Hill to Central: 40 mins by tram



The long-awaited tram service from Dulwich Hill to Central opened last week to much fanfare. It marks the first opening of a new commuter rail line in Sydney since trains started running on the Epping to Chatswood heavy rail line in 2009.

Fairfax transport reporter Jacob Saulwick took a ride and rated Sydney's newest tram on its extended line to Dulwich Hill in the inner west. Watch the video at <http://busexpress.com.au>



Divisional Secretary Chris Preston and Divisional President Gary Way

Are you talking 4DX at your depot?

Members will know that 4DX consultants are working with members and the STA at depots across NSW. Members were initially asked undertake meetings in their own time, but following RTBU action, meetings now occur in paid time.

There are still some outstanding concerns about the 4DX consultation process, which the union will investigate on behalf of members. Subscribe to Bus Express using the online form (right) for the latest updates.

On open letter in praise of Sydney transport

An open letter to NSW Transport Minister, Gladys Berejiklian, from journalist Anne Fulwood:

Dear Gladys B,

I have been moved to write a letter to you and Sydney's public transport is the reason. Ms Berejiklian, Minister for Transport, I want you to know that I am a fan of Sydney's buses and trains. I hear all the traumas and troubles and listen to regular reports of disaffected travellers finding reason and a venue to vent. Surely they cannot be serious?

As a first-time user, virtually, this has been a most enjoyable experience that I never thought I would share publicly. No system is perfect, but in the scheme of things ours is very good. Read more on Bus Express online.



Vice President Brett Peters
Know your Rights

Picnic Day

69.1 It is agreed that the Union will nominate a Sunday in each calendar year for the purpose of the Picnic Day. All Employees covered under this Award, other than Casual Employees, shall be entitled to the Picnic Day entitlement.

69.2 Employess rostered off on Picnic Day will be paid 7.6 hours ordinary time pay rates.

69.3 An employee rostered to work on the Picnic Day shall be paid an additional 7.6 hours ordinary time pay.

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