

BUS EXPRESS

News and views from life in the bus lane



JUNE 2017

RTBU NSW TRAM AND BUS DIVISION



Commuter Action Day

On Wednesday July 5, commuters across Sydney volunteered at their local bus stop to spread awareness about Constance's privatisation plans and the havoc this will cause for passengers. The commuter-volunteers secured over 5,000 additional signatures for the Don't Sell Our Buses petition.

RTBU Bus Division Secretary Chris Preston spoke at Railway Square to show his gratitude for the people of Sydney in coming together to fight against the privatisation of Sydney's buses.

"The fact that volunteers across Sydney gave up their morning in the freezing cold shows Minister Constance that commuters will do what it takes to stop these ridiculous privatisation plans.



Commuters will have to pay higher fares for fewer services, and less profitable bus stops will be scrapped so that greedy companies can profit from our public services. Today has proven to Minister Constance that commuters will do everything it takes to keep public transport in public hands."

Drivers punished for standing up against Constance's privatisation attacks

NSW bus drivers have had their pay cut by up to \$150 a week as the State Transit Authority punishes workers for standing up against Constance's privatisation attacks.

Due to a condition in the award, drivers risk losing their Industry Allowance if they don't follow by the rules of the Dispute Settlement Procedure (DSP).

Workers are now paying the price for defending their own jobs.

Undertaking the necessary action to show Constance how ridiculous his plans were, our bus drivers across 12 depots in Sydney displayed their frustration by turning their Opal machines off on June 1st and giving commuters a fare free day.

We will continue to stand strong in our fight against bus privatisation to protect NSW drivers' jobs and keep our buses in public hands.

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VICE PRESIDENT
BRETT PETERS**KNOW YOUR RIGHTS****SECTION 57****Career break**

65.1 A permanent employee who has been continuously employed with State Transit for a minimum period of five years may make application to take a fixed period of time off work, in order to fulfil family or personal commitments or to pursue personal development without loss of job security.

65.2 The terms and conditions under which an employee may take a career break are as follows:

- (i). The minimum period for a career break is six months. The maximum period for a career break is 12 months.
- (ii). An employee must provide three months notice of a request to take a career break.

Community stands strong with bus drivers to oppose privatisation with 3 major June events

The community of the Inner West has demonstrated its strong support for bus drivers with events across Leichhardt, Marrickville and Sydney's CBD, the fight to stop Constance's privatisation attacks has well and truly ramped up.

On June 15 the 'Meet the Drivers' night was held at the Herb Greedie Hall in Marrickville to a full house of concerned community members.

On June 19 at Leichhardt, Greens MPs Jamie Parker, Jenny Leong and Mehreen Faruqi hosted a Town Hall meeting which was attended by over 300 people.



The community came together again on June 28th as the Sydney Alliance opened their doors to hundreds of supporters in a Community Assembly at Pitt St Uniting Church.

Our drivers were blown away by the level of community support across all four events. This widespread support demonstrates that the community is just as angry as bus drivers are about the privatisation and strongly supports the 'Don't Sell Our Buses Campaign.'

DIVISIONAL SECRETARY
CHRIS PRESTONDIVISIONAL PRESIDENT
DAVID WOOLLAMS