

ITEM-27 NOM 08/12/15 - PUBLIC TRANSPORT IN NEWCASTLE

COUNCILLORS: CLAUSEN, CRAKANTHORP, DUNN AND POSNIAK

PURPOSE

The following Notice of Motion was received on 25 November 2015 from the abovenamed Councillors:

MOTION

That Council

- 1 Reiterate support for a geographically focused Hunter Transport Authority to provide a governance structure that
 - a) allows the region to determine public transport outcomes and
 - b) investigates opportunities for further transport reform to support a focus on door-to-door customer journeys through greater focus on interchange and multi-modal integration.

- 2 Reiterates the importance of collaborating with Transport for NSW to establish an integrated transport management plan for the city and Region as a priority.
 - a) that integrates with land-use planning
 - b) including forward planning of the next stage of any light rail project, including community consultation on the proposed routes.

- 3 Supporting the continued public ownership, maintenance and operation of the current Hunter transport services including buses, trains, ferries and hubs/Interchanges.

- 4 Urges the NSW Government to consult with Newcastle City Council, our residents and community groups prior to any sale, lease, market engagement, public tender or expressions of interest of Newcastle Buses and Ferries.

Newcastle City Council respectfully requests consultation to include information on:

- any benefits of a fully privately operated network
- any cost implications of a privately operated network
- likely impact on employment of existing bus and ferry operators
- engagement with regional transport committees
- guaranteed bus service maintenance or improvement of bus services
- any proposed exclusion of Newcastle Buses and Ferries from tendering to be the provider of the Newcastle Transport Service.

CITY OF NEWCASTLE

Ordinary Council Meeting 08 December 2015

Page 112

Further, Newcastle City Council acknowledges and appreciates Lake Macquarie City Council's public support of public ownership, maintenance and operation of Hunter transport services including buses, trains, ferries and hubs/Interchanges

BACKGROUND

On 5 November the NSW Government made the shock announcement that Newcastle's light rail, government buses and Stockton ferry will be run by a single operator under a privatisation plan. The new body, Transport for Newcastle, would provide the city's public transport under private ownership.

Newcastle Council has long supported a Hunter Transport Authority; however there are genuine fears that a profit driven Transport for Newcastle will result in a decrease in services, increases in prices and a decrease in maintenance.

Consultation on the issues outlined above will provide Council with vital information on this contentious issue.

Council has already unanimously resolved to ask the State Government to expand any proposed light rail project for Newcastle to connect the inner city with the University at Callaghan, the John Hunter Hospital, Hunter Stadium, the Newcastle Airport, beaches, and the proposed Glendale Interchange; and ensure any light rail network integrates with car parking, cycle-way, pedestrian, bus and heavy rail operations and;

Work with the NSW Government and Transport for NSW to establish a Memorandum of Understanding with Council to acknowledge Council's role in land-use and transport planning and define how the parties will work together and;

Collaborate with Transport for NSW to establish an integrated transport management plan including forward planning of the next stage of any light rail project, including community consultation on the proposed routes.

Noting Lake Macquarie City Council's public support of public ownership, maintenance and operation of Hunter transport services including buses, trains, ferries and hubs/Interchanges

ATTACHMENTS

Nil

LMCC Motion

Lake Macquarie City Council supports public ownership, maintenance and operation of Hunter transport services including buses, trains, ferries and hubs/Interchanges.

Lake Macquarie City Council urges the NSW Government to immediately cease any sale, lease, market engagement, public tender or expressions of interest of Newcastle Buses and Ferries and to undertake consultation with Lake Macquarie City Council, our residents and community groups.

Lake Macquarie City Council respectfully requests consultation to include information on:-

- *any benefits of a privately operated network*
- *likely impact on employment of existing bus and ferry operators*
- *engagement with regional transport committees*
- *identification of likely transport interchange's to be operated by a single Newcastle Transport Service*
- *guarantee of existing bus services*
- *any exclusion of Newcastle Buses and Ferries from tendering to be the provider of the Newcastle Transport Service.*

Further, Lake Macquarie City Council write to Newcastle City Council in support of public ownership, maintenance and operation of Newcastle Buses and Ferries and seek clarification on Newcastle City Councils support for public ownership, maintenance and operation of Newcastle Buses and Ferries.

Do you support the government's privatisation of buses, ferries and light rail in Newcastle? (Poll Closed)

No 70.23%



Yes 29.77%



 Like  Share  0

 Tweet  10

[Create Your Own Poll](#)





PUBLIC
NOT PROFIT
TRANSPORT

TELL MIKE BAIRD TO STOP SELLING US SHORT