



Rail, Tram and Bus Union

MEDIA RELEASE

21 October 2017

New poll shows Sydney commuters strongly against bus privatisation

Commuters in areas at risk of their bus service being privatised are strongly opposed to the move and believe privatisation will result in fewer services in their area, polling released today has found.

A ReachTEL poll of residents in the electorates of Coogee, Ryde, the Northern Beaches and Drummoyne - all areas bus drivers believe could be next on the NSW Government's privatisation hit list – reveals commuters are by and large happy with their current bus services and believe the only people set to benefit from privatisation are the private companies themselves and the government – not commuters.

The NSW Government has already announced the privatisation of 'region 6' buses in Sydney's inner-west and Transport Minister, Andrew Constance, has suggested further privatisation could be on the cards.

Rail, Tram and Bus Union (RTBU) Tram and Bus Divisional Secretary, Chris Preston said the poll findings highlight serious commuter concerns about privatisation and show NSW residents aren't buying the Government's rhetoric.

"The overwhelming majority of people do not want buses in their area sold off to private companies," Mr Preston said.

"This should act as a real wake up call to the NSW Government. Commuters are making it very clear that they do not want their services privatised.

"Commuters simply aren't buying the rubbish the Transport Minister is sprouting about privatisation being good for us. Everyone can see right through the spin. They know that the only people set to benefit from privatisation are the private companies themselves and the NSW Government.

"Commuters are very rightly concerned that if private companies take the reins of our bus networks, services will be axed.

"Minister Constance should get over his fixation with privatisation and start focussing on what really matters to Sydney's commuters – providing Sydney with a world-class transport network."

**** See polling results on next page.**

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ReachTEL conducted a survey of 718 residents in the Federal electorate of Mackellar. The survey was conducted the night of 29th September 2017.

Q. How would you rate the performance of the current bus network in your local area?

	Total
Very Good	17.7%
Good	32.8%
Neutral	22.1%
Poor	15.3%
Very Poor	9.6%
Don't know or Unsure	2.5%

Q. Of the following, which one are you concerned about most about bus privatisation in your area?

	Total
Longer journey times	13.4%
Fewer bus stops	7.7%
Fewer bus services	35.4%
Don't know or Unsure	43.5%

Do you support or oppose privatisation of essential services such as public transport?

	Total
Strongly Support	16.0%
Support	12.0%
Undecided	16.2%
Oppose	21.3%
Strongly Oppose	34.4%

Of the following, which do you think will benefit most from the privatisation of Sydney's bus network?

	Total
Commuters	14.9%
The Private company	46.2%
The Government	19.2%
Don't know or Unsure	19.6%

Q. The NSW government is privatising buses in Sydney's Inner-West. How concerned are you about moves to privatised buses in your area?

	Total
Very Concerned	45.9%
Somewhat Concerned	20.5%
Not at all concerned	23.3%
Don't know or Unsure	10.3%

Q. Do you think privatising your local services will result in a better or worse bus service in your area

	Total
Better	16.3%
Worse	48.1%
About the same	24.5%
Don't know or Unsure	11.1%

ReachTEL conducted a survey of 746 residents in the State electorate of Coogee. The survey was conducted the night of 29th September 2017.

How would you rate the performance of the current bus network in your local area?

	Total
Very Good	26.8%
Good	31.4%
Neutral	19.7%
Poor	16.3%
Very Poor	5.0%
Don't know or Unsure	0.8%

Of the following, which one are you concerned about most about bus privatisation in your area?

	Total
Longer journey times	8.4%
Fewer bus stops	14.8%
Fewer bus services	50.2%
Don't know or Unsure	26.6%

Do you support or oppose privatisation of essential services such as public transport?

	Total
Strongly Support	11.8%
Support	6.7%
Undecided	16.0%
Oppose	18.1%
Strongly Oppose	47.5%

Q. Of the following, which do you think will benefit most from the privatisation of Sydney's bus network?

	Total
Commuters	8.4%
The Private company	57.6%
The Government	19.3%
Don't know or Unsure	14.7%

Q. Do you think privatising your local services will result in a better or worse bus service in your area

	Total
Better	7.2%
Worse	71.7%
About the same	14.3%
Don't know or Unsure	6.8%

Q. The NSW government is privatising buses in Sydney's Inner-West. How concerned are you about moves to privatised buses in your area?

	Total
Very Concerned	63.9%
Somewhat Concerned	16.4%
Not at all concerned	12.2%
Don't know or Unsure	7.6%

ReachTEL conducted a survey of 741 residents in the State electorate of Drummoyne. The survey was conducted the night of 29th September 2017.

How would you rate the performance of the current bus network in your local area?

	Total
Very Good	27.4%
Good	37.4%
Neutral	18.6%
Poor	8.6%
Very Poor	3.6%
Don't know or Unsure	4.3%

Of the following, which one are you concerned about most about bus privatisation in your area?

	Total
Longer journey times	7.4%
Fewer bus stops	11.2%
Fewer bus services	48.1%
Don't know or Unsure	33.2%

Do you support or oppose privatisation of essential services such as public transport?

	Total
Strongly Support	11.2%
Support	13.2%
Undecided	15.9%
Oppose	19.9%
Strongly Oppose	39.8%

Of the following, which do you think will benefit most from the privatisation of Sydney's bus network?

	Total
Commuters	10.6%
The Private company	45.0%
The Government	22.4%
Don't know or Unsure	22.0%

The NSW government is privatising buses in Sydney's Inner-West. How concerned are you about moves to privatised buses in your area?

	Total
Very Concerned	60.7%
Somewhat Concerned	18.8%
Not at all concerned	12.1%
Don't know or Unsure	8.4%

Do you think privatising your local services will result in a better or worse bus service in your area

	Total
Better	10.7%
Worse	59.8%
About the same	17.3%
Don't know or Unsure	12.3%