

BUS EXPRESS

News and views from life in the bus lane



EDITION NO. 99 - AUGUST/SEPTEMBER 2018

RTBU NSW TRAM AND BUS DIVISION



Dear members,

Another month, another handful of Andrew Constance fails. In September we saw leaked documents which show that a complete lack of forward planning means that even if the NSW Government purchased new light rail trams today, we're still going to be seeing severe levels of over-crowding on our light rail lines for the next three years at an absolute minimum.

We've been warning the NSW Government about over-crowding on our light rail network for years, but as usual, our incompetent, arrogant Transport Minister has ignored the advice of the experts.

Combine that with another epic fail on our train network that forced our comrades in the railways to deal with huge delays on the network yet again, and news that that Transport for NSW is spending \$1.1million of taxpayers' money to test how well audiences "recall" it's advertisements and it makes you wonder how this Transport Minister has managed to survive so long in his job.

It's quite incredible that one man can manage to bungle so many vital projects.

In this edition you'll also read about a digital trial on our B-line buses which will now be rolled out by the NSW Government. If it's anything like their other projects then we won't be surprised if they bungle this one too. So please get in touch with us if you have any feedback on the roll-out.

In Solidarity,

Chris Preston & Dave Woollams
RTBU NSW Bus & Tram Divisional Secretary & President



DIVISIONAL PRESIDENT
DAVID WOOLLAMS

DIVISIONAL SECRETARY
CHRIS PRESTON

NSW Government light rail contract 'incompetent'

The NSW Government has been slammed in a parliamentary inquiry into the impact of the light rail. The inquiry has unearthed a litany of issues that continue to hamstring the \$2.1 billion project.

As you'll read in the AAP article, serious planning omissions, an "insanely" weak contract and workers urinating where they shouldn't – they're just some of the problems plaguing Sydney's delayed eastern suburbs light rail.

Chris Preston, Bus & Tram Division Secretary said "This NSW Government is a joke. Commuters, tax payers and workers don't deserve this." Access a link to the full article on Bus Express.

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Light rail 'crush capacity'

In September confidential government documents have revealed that the number of passengers enduring "crush capacity" on Sydney's inner west light rail line or being left behind on platforms will worsen unless the NSW Government buys more trams.

The Sydney Morning Herald has reported that the documents show that even if new trams are bought, it will be up to three years before they are running on the line before of the time it take to procure and commission them.

The Tram and Bus Division has long raised concerns about capacity and safety issues on the light rail. The government's refusal to act is having – and will continue to have – a huge impact on our commuters.

Read the full article in the SMH [here](#).
Note: there may be a Paywall.

Sydney's buses get digital 'third eye' view to prevent collisions

iTNews: "The NSW Government has unveiled plans to equip the 38 double-decker buses travelling on the B-Line with intelligent collision avoidance devices.

The state government initially trialled the Mobileye technology on the CBD to Northern Beaches line back in February.

Statistics from the NSW Centre for Road Safety show that 30 people were killed and 472 people seriously injured in crashes with buses between 2013 and 2017. Of the fatalities, 12 were pedestrians.

The Mobileye system, developed by Intel, gives bus drivers "a third eye on the road to help keep customers and other road users safe," Transport minister Andrew Constance said in a statement." Read more on iTNews [here](#).

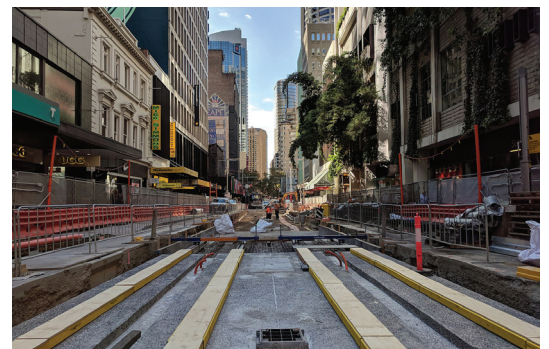
As the technology rolls out, if you have any feedback or concerns we want to hear them. Please talk to your local delegate or you can email the Bus & Tram Division on info@rtbu-nswbus.asn.au to give us your feedback.

SMH: Experts warned on high costs of Sydney light rail project six years ago

Tax payers and commuters should be outraged at the negligence of this NSW Government. Sydney's light rail has been plagued with ridiculous cost blow outs and the delays on the service are continuing. Add to that the fact that the light rail will already be severely crowded when it opens because of this government's poor planning. For every mistake this NSW Government make, it's tax payers and commuters who are paying the price.

"The state government was warned as far back as 2012 of the limited benefits from a new light rail line in central Sydney relative to its high-cost, leaked reports marked "cabinet-in confidence" reveal.

An analysis for the state's transport agency six years ago found none of 26 possible routes – including the one that was eventually chosen – had a benefit-cost ratio above 0.8, meaning the cost of constructing and operating the line would exceed the value to taxpayers." Read the full article on the SMH [here](#).



UNFINISHED CONSTRUCTION SITES IN APRIL 2018 - THE MONTH MAJOR CONSTRUCTION WAS DUE TO BE COMPLETED



EXTERIOR OF THE ALSTOM CITADIS X05 TRAMS TO BE USED ON THE CBD AND SOUTH EAST LIGHT RAIL