



THE ENTRANCE COMMUNITY PRECINCT COMMITTEE

P0 Box 349 The Entrance 2261

2 September, 2009

Mr David Campbell,
Minister for Transport
Level 35 Governor Macquarie Tower,
1 Farrer Place,
SYDNEY NSW 2000

Subject: **BUS REFORM IN THE CENTRAL COAST REGION OF NSW**

Dear Minister

The purpose of this letter is to bring to your attention the lack of bus services available to passengers on Sundays.

I attended a briefing on 10 August, 2009, given by the Department of Transport and Infrastructure's Community Liaison Officer, Peta Hill. We were informed that, in the Bus Review your department is currently conducting, the Bus Contracts with Red Bus and Busways have a fixed length of kilometres in them and that this could not be changed in the short term. This means that as far as the network is concerned any increase in one area will be at the expense of another route.

The bus passengers of the Wyong Shire are poorly served by services on a Sunday with an unmet demand for public transport. The Wyong Shire is not like metropolitan Sydney. Here we have a coastal holiday resort towns and shopping centers that are open on Sundays. There is a large demand by all sections of the community to travel by bus on a Sunday. The lack of services impacts on the young who can't drive as well as the elderly and the disadvantaged who also do not have recourse to a motor vehicle to go to the beach or visit Westfield Tuggerah to see a movie.

Because your Department will not renegotiate the bus contracts to provide additional kilometers there is no alternative than to cut some routes to provide a better Sunday Service. The Central Coast seems to have come out poorly in this review for in addition to the restraints imposed on real reform there is also a lack of funds for infrastructure that accompanied Metropolitan Sydney bus reform.

The Entrance Community Precinct Committee urges you to review the decision to keep the kilometers in bus contracts fixed and allow some realistic reform to take place, so that the Central Coast does not miss out on an opportunity to improve public transport.

Yours Sincerely

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CC to John Hatzistergos- Minister for the Central Coast, Grant McBride - NSW Member for The Entrance