



The new Metropolitan Transport Plan is good news for all rail commuters

Transport plan targets western Sydney

Western Express CityRail Service to increase capacity and cut travel times

The NSW Government's new Metropolitan Transport Plan outlines a massive investment over the next 10 years in new trains and infrastructure to increase rail network capacity.

A key project within this new vision for improving public transport is the Western Express CityRail Service.

The \$4.5 billion project will enable CityRail to introduce faster and more frequent services from western Sydney to the City, with the ultimate goal of providing up to 100 per cent more seating capacity on the Western Line and doubling service frequency on the Richmond branch line.

"The Western Express project will address our top two priorities: growing capacity to accommodate forecast population growth in Sydney's west, and relieving congestion at CBD stations," says Rob Mason, CityRail Chief Executive.

"The project will involve the creation of a dedicated track to separate western trains from all other traffic. This will reduce travel times as trains from the west get a clear run into the City."

The key to the Western Express is a new five-kilometre priority tunnel – known as the CityRail Relief line – which will be constructed from 2015.

"The CityRail Relief line will include the construction of eight new underground platforms at Redfern, Central, Town Hall and Wynyard

stations, each with the capacity to accommodate trains up to 12 carriages long," Rob says.

"These longer trains will travel directly to new CBD stations and eliminate the need for passengers from the west to change trains at Central. This will spread the existing passenger load and also allow for future growth."

Mr Mason says that the Western CityRail Express Service will unlock capacity within the existing rail network.

"It will also enable improvements in services in most of the other lines that feed Sydney from the West and South. The new transport plan means big gains for all rail commuters," Rob adds.

Metropolitan Transport Plan: key rail projects

- \$4.5 billion for the Western Express CityRail Service
- \$3.1 billion for new trains, in addition to the 626 Waratah carriages currently on order, over the next 10 years
- Construction of the North West rail link from Epping to Rouse Hill
- Construction of the South West rail link from Glenfield to Leppington
- \$400m for commuter car parks over the next 10 years.



Olympic Park Sprint services doubled in weekday peaks

Waiting time for customers travelling on the Olympic Park Sprint service between Lidcombe and Olympic Park have been halved, with trains now running every 10 minutes during weekday peak periods.

The increased services, a commitment made under CityRail's 2010 Customer Charter, began on Monday and run every 10 minutes between 6am and 10.30am in the morning peak, and between 3pm and 9pm in the afternoon peak.

CityRail's 2010 Customer Charter outlines an ambitious set of targets over the next 12 months to improve customer service.

The Charter also includes a commitment to manage crowding across the network to provide an efficient and comfortable journey for customers.

More than 100 organisations and around 8,500 workers are currently based at Sydney Olympic Park. With increased population and business growth forecast for the area, the improved services are great news for customers.

New transport plan: have your say

The recently-released NSW Metropolitan Transport Plan aims to link effectively Sydney's land use planning with its transport network. It aims to deliver 70% of new housing in established areas, improve equity through increasing the share of jobs accessible to Western Sydney and contain congestion across the Sydney region.

The plan includes a separate rail track designed to cut travel time from western Sydney to the city (see main story); a start to work on a North West rail link from Epping to Rouse Hill; over \$3.1 billion for new trains – in addition to the 626 Waratah carriages already on order; expansion of the light rail system; and new ferries and buses.

The Transport Plan aims to help concentrate development and transport services in Sydney's centres to make better use of existing infrastructure, strengthen economies and create a more liveable city.

The NSW Government is keen to hear views and receive comments on the Metropolitan Transport Plan, and providing feedback is easy. Just visit the CityRail home page at www.cityrail.info and click on the Metropolitan Transport Plan – Have your Say moving banner.

Did you know?

This Saturday will be a busy one for the Moore Park area: 80,000 people will attend the Mardi Gras Party (Hordern Pavilion), Future Music Festival (Randwick Racecourse) and the Waratahs-Sharks game (Sydney Football Stadium).

Save time and money with a 'Moore Park Ticket', which includes return rail travel to Central Station and travel to and from Moore Park on connecting services.

Please note that Future Music is an 'integrated ticket' event, so return travel on public transport is already included.



This weekend 6 & 7 Mar

Sat 6 and Sun 7 Mar

Western Line Buses replace trains between St Marys and Granville and also between Richmond and Granville.

Carlingford Line Buses replace trains between Carlingford and Clyde.

Blue Mountains Line Buses replace trains between Penrith and Central.

Next week

Mon 8 to Fri 12 Mar

Western Line Buses replace trains between Richmond and Quakers Hill, then nightly from 7.50pm, buses replace trains between Richmond and Blacktown.

Mon 8 to Thu 11 Mar

Hunter Line From 10.20pm to 2.15am, trains between Telarah and Newcastle operate 15 minutes later than the normal timetable.

Newcastle & Central Coast Line From 9.20pm to 2.30am, buses replace trains between Newcastle and Morisset.

Tue 9 to Fri 12 Mar

Hunter Line Buses replace trains between Scone and Maitland.

Thu 11 Mar

City Circle Services From 9.30pm to 2am, trains operate in one direction only, from Central via Museum.

Airport & East Hills Line From 9.30pm to 2am, trains commence from Central platforms 22 and 23.



The stairs are there for walking, not for people talking.

If you have a 2010 School Student RailPass visit trainsmart.com.au for your chance to win a \$30 music download voucher.

Competition ends 12 March 2010.

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