

# TRANSPORT

Great public transport is the hallmark of every community that values efficiency, equity and social cohesion. This election is the best chance we have to demand a public transport system that supports us, our families and the environment.



## PUBLIC TRANSPORT FOR THE 21<sup>ST</sup> CENTURY

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Public transport is critical for access, mobility and boosting long-term sustainable job creation. We deserve world-class public transport.

For over 20 years, successive NSW Labor and Liberal governments have failed to invest in our growing transport needs. New multi-billion dollar toll roads like WestConnex and NorthConnex won't fix Sydney's transport system. The enormous investment in 1950s style infrastructure diverts public money from integrated transport solutions in the City, Western Sydney and Regional NSW. Across the world, cities and regions are building transport systems that reduce reliance on private cars. Evidence shows increasing road capacity doesn't actually help ease congestion and contributes significantly to greenhouse gas emissions and climate change. However, both Labor and the Coalition have an obsession with building more toll roads.

The Coalition government is pushing ahead with its outdated agenda, building the \$15 billion WestConnex toll road despite there being no evidence that it will improve Sydney's transport problems. In 2012, the NSW government privatised Sydney's ferries. Now, they are building the North West Rail Link: a privately operated single-deck train line in Sydney that would be completely isolated from the rest of the Sydney Trains network. This is the start of the privatisation and cannibalisation of the publicly owned Sydney trains network. The Coalition government is wasting billions of dollars on unnecessary toll roads that benefit only big business – property developers, toll road companies and financiers. The vital Newcastle rail line has been cut for the benefit of vested interests and public transport in regional NSW isn't even on the LNP agenda. In the 2014-15 NSW budget, there was not a cent of extra funding for improving public transport in regional areas. NSW Labor only built two heavy rail links while in office for 16 years, and supported failed toll road projects such as the Cross City Tunnel and Lane Cove Tunnel. Now, Labor supports the

new urban toll roads called WestConnex and NorthConnex, and has no vision for public transport in NSW. The Greens are the only party who have strongly opposed WestConnex and NorthConnex since day one. We have forced the government to release documents related to the secret WestConnex business Case; exposed the Government's flawed economic, transport and environmental case for building Westconnex; and worked with the community to stop destructive new toll roads.

We have stood against the influence of vested interests and big business to advocate for the real infrastructure investment our State needs.

**The Greens will:**

- **Ensure transparency and genuine public participation in transport decision making.**
- **Shift freight transport from road to rail and ensure it is ecologically sustainable.**
- **End the construction of the Westconnex and Northconnex motorways.**
- **Invest in a mix of heavy rail, light rail and bus services for metropolitan Sydney and expand public transport in Western Sydney.**
- **Improve rural and regional public transport services including rail, bus and community transport.**
- **Improve the Opal system to integrate fares for seamless journeys on all types of public transport.**
- **Support Federal efforts to build a high speed rail network on the East Coast of Australia.**
- **Accelerate programs such as Transport Access to provide lift or ramp access to all railway stations.**
- **Ensure everyone has access to affordable public transport to enable access to jobs, education and ensure social inclusion.**