



The Palm Beach & Whale Beach Association Inc.

www.pbwba.org.au | PO Box 2 Palm Beach NSW 2108

Mr Robert Miesegeaes
Project Director
Northern Beaches B-Line Program
Transport NSW,
Suit 1-5, 117 Old Pittwater Road,
Brookvale. NSW 2100

21/4/18

Dear Mr Miesegeaes

RE: PROPOSED ROUNDABOUT AT BARRENJOEY RD/NEPTUNE ST NEWPORT & PALM BEACH TRANSPORT

The Palm Beach Whale Beach Association (PBWBA) supports The Newport Residents Association's opposition to the proposed construction of a roundabout at Neptune Street/ Barrenjoey Rd Newport and the extension of the BLine to Newport.

We have attended several meetings with the BLine team, including the one attended by you on 20th November '17 at Mona Vale Community Centre together with the other northern peninsula residents groups and senior NBC staff. We have sent countless letters/emails to BLine, Transport for NSW, Rob Stokes our local member and the Northern Beaches Council where we have expressed our deep concerns about the negative impact to traffic flow that we believe will be created by the construction of a roundabout at this location in Newport.

Vehicles travelling from Palm Beach southbound already face increasing traffic congestion along Barrenjoey Road from Whale Beach Road through to Avalon shops (this section alone can now take 20 minutes), then congestion continues to Kamikaze Corner roundabout at Plateau Road, then on through "The Bends". Vehicles travelling northbound to Palm Beach from the bottom of Newport Hill in the late afternoon and any time on weekends and holidays will also be affected by even more congestion through Newport shops, the proposed Neptune St roundabout, around "The Bends", Kamikaze Corner then through to Avalon. The thought of facing another choke point at a roundabout at Neptune Street is intolerable.

We understand the REF for the proposed roundabout is due for release in May. When will the promised Community consultation with groups north of Newport take place? When will the traffic count numbers be released to the public? Yet again, it seems that the bureaucrats think the Northern Beaches ends at Mona Vale with scant consideration given to those communities at the northern end of the Peninsula. The introduction of the BLine has seen travel time lengthened considerably for members of those communities travelling

from the south then having to change buses and wait...and wait... for the I99/L90 at the Mona Vale hub. There is nothing more frustrating than watching the I99/L90 depart just as the BLine that you are on arrives. The longest bus trip in Sydney has become even longer. An extension of the BLine service from Mona Vale to Newport does little for the majority of the Community - it will simply move the bus change point & waiting time to Newport.

We have continually asked for a trial introduction of an extension to the E88 peak service - where the E88 would commence/terminate in Palm Beach so that commuters would not have to change buses at Mona Vale hub. This would remove vehicles from the road and carparks (driving to Careel Bay or further to Mona Vale or Warriewood to park and catch the BLine) and free up space on the BLine for commuters further down the line who face very long queues and full buses. It would provide a quicker, continuous, convenient trip. This service would be an extension only - not a new service - so why not trial it?

We were also assured that advertising and marketing of KEORIDE would take place. We are still waiting! When and how will this take place? KEORIDE encourages use of public transport and is really helpful for the all important first mile/last mile part of a trip. It is unfortunate that the majority of the Community still have no knowledge of KEORIDE. Community feedback to PBWBA from those who are aware of the service - (mostly through word of mouth) - is very positive with reports that it is an excellent service.

Given that Newport Beach carpark is Crown Land we are at a loss to understand how this can be allocated for BLine commuter parking when one of the main principles of Crown Land use is that the public cannot be alienated from the Crown Land.

We look forward to your response to our concerns.

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Richard West". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style.

Dr Richard West AM
President
0407 942 941