



Newport Residents Association Inc.

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11th December 2017

The Hon. Rob Stokes, MP
Minister for Education,
1725 Pittwater Road
MONA VALE NSW 2103

Dear Rob,

Re B-Line Extension to Newport

The Newport Residents Association has been inundated by residents wishing to have a say regarding the B-Line proposals to Newport since the announcement. This culminated in a Rally being held on the 22nd October (following demands by residents for over 3 months to hold one). This rally drew app 700 people and a petition was available to sign which collected 550 signatures on that day. The petition has continued and up to Friday the 1st December 2017 1,342 people have signed it.

It is important to note the wording of the petition as follows;

I will not support the extension of the B-Line to Newport without having a fully developed and researched plan to judge. Everything exposed to us as yet threatens to increase traffic congestion, threatens our local and beach parking, threatens our trees and threatens our village life. I want a public transport solution that works for the whole Peninsula.

We attach a hard copy of the petition (a scanned copy was sent to you on the 1st December as a cc to the one we sent to Transport NSW for comments closing that day regarding the proposed roundabout at Newport). We request that you have a careful look at comments, which range from No Roundabout to No extension to Newport. 1,341 people are saying they don't want an extension to Newport based on the current proposals. Only one person was for the roundabout at Newport.

You will also note some people are saying extend the B-Line to Palm Beach or Avalon, in other words replace some of the current busses with B-Line busses rather than having a terminus at Newport.

Another matter which needs attention is that when the project team met with ourselves we were told that the roundabout would not proceed until there had been consultation with the communities north of Newport. Those communities have told us that has not occurred, however Roundabout comments closed at 5 pm on December 1st 2017. How can you have consultation after the close-off time. Those communities are very concerned about the establishment of another congestion point caused by the current roundabout proposal.

We are not saying don't have a B-Line service serving the peninsula residents north of Mona Vale. What we are saying is we need a bus service for the whole Peninsula as expressed in a recent meeting between the four residents groups north of Mona Vale, representatives of Northern Beaches Council and Transport NSW executives.

We believe the overwhelming range of concerns expressed to us from our Association meetings, the Newport Rally, the people who have signed the petition, the Resident Associations north of Newport and the submissions made to Transport NSW do not support the current or previous proposals for creating a B-Line terminus (or hub if your prefer to call it) at Newport.

Yours sincerely,

Gavin Butler
President