

Notes from Meeting with Rob Stokes Monday 11th December 2017

Present: Rob Stokes, Andrew Johnston, Robert Johnston (RJ)

Gavin Butler, Michael Peschardt

- We handed over a hard copy of the petition with a covering letter from the NRA (copy of covering letter on website). Andrew Johnston volunteered that the wording of the petition was quite fair and Rob said he would carefully read the petition comments and attached letter.
- Rob opened up with saying he had done everything asked of him to date and stopped the terminus being located in the Surf Club, Bramley Lane carpark, residential streets and Porter Reserve.
- Michael discussed his take on the feedback he witnessed and observed both from the Rally and standing outside Coles one Saturday morning noting he was expecting a 50/50 feedback but surprised to find a 90/10% response against the B-Line extension to Newport.
- We talked about the inferior service we currently have, although not outright admitting it, he was aware of the problems, especially in non-peak hour, getting back to the Peninsula after being dropped at Mona Vale by the B-Line. (People complaining they have to wait up to 20 minutes for a 199 to get north).
- Rob indicated that if the B-Line didn't go to Newport then they would have to have another look at the service timetable.
- When discussing the B-Line and whether it should go all the way up the Peninsula he said the original proposal was for it to go to Avalon but the people of Avalon had said no way. He thought it could turn around in Avalon just where the current busses do. I told him we had been told by Transport NSW that the B-Line couldn't go past Newport due to the congestion around the bends and the need to have three buses lined up in Newport so they could meet the correct starting time. He suggested those statement were not accurate and the B-Line could be extended to Avalon.
- Rob indicated that he had messages from a number of residents in Neptune (further up the street from the corner with Barrenjoey Rd corner) who were very keen for a roundabout to be installed.
- Rob said the Northern Beaches Council were a very strong supporter of installing a roundabout.
- Rob closed by reminding me that I had his direct mobile phone number and could call him anytime.

Follow-up conversation with Kristina Zarich from the Transport NSW B-Line project team on 13th December 2017.

Kristina called (not sure of the real motivation but she had heard we had a meeting with Rob, said it came from a Newport resident and not Rob's office and that she had never met Rob).

- Kristina said she and the office would be on leave from 22nd Dec and she would be back on the 9th Jan.
- Kristina said a traffic assessment team were on-site at the surf club that day assessing how many people entered and left the carpark, how many parked all day. She said the

assessment team would come back in mid-January for 2 days, and one of those days would be on a weekend.

- I discussed with Kristina Rob's comments that the B-Line could go to Avalon but she said she had never heard that and since coming on board the project team the position had always been they could not extend past Newport for the congestion around the bends and any delay would affect the whole corridor. Kristina was quite adamant about that point.
- We talked about the service issue, especially about the people having to wait up to 20 minutes at Mona Vale to connect north and she said they were aware of it and were investigating what can be done.