

MEDIA RELEASE

BUS RAPID TRANSIT (BRT) FOR NORTHERN BEACHES & MOSMAN GAINS MOMENTUM

22 August 2011

Planning for a Northern Beaches Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) system was discussed at a meeting today between the NSW Transport Minister Gladys Berejiklian MP, Manly MP and NSW Treasurer Mike Baird MP and the SHOROC Board of Mayors and General Managers representing Manly, Mosman Pittwater and Warringah councils.

"The Transport Minister provided an update on the NSW Government's progress on its BRT feasibility study and the meeting involved constructive discussion about the initial planning and development phase as well as long term-goals of the BRT", said SHOROC President and Pittwater Mayor Harvey Rose. "It was a positive meeting where we discussed the NSW Government's commitment to this significant transport infrastructure project for the SHOROC region".

The meeting was organised by Manly MP and NSW Treasurer Mike Baird and discussion focused on the objectives of the BRT, global case studies and addressing the potential challenges, barriers and benefits for the SHOROC region.

Mayor Rose said "the Bus Rapid Transit system is a key element of SHOROC's regional strategy *Shaping Our Future* and we think it's a practical solution that can be built and fully operational at a realistic cost and in a short-term timeframe".

The NSW Government's feasibility study is the first step toward constructing a public transport system that will deliver real change for our region. SHOROC understands the NSW Government's feasibility study involves a strategic assessment of the Bus Rapid Transit options for the region, including potentials costs, alignment options, integration, environmental impacts and traffic and patronage studies.

"I am pleased that the Minister and MPs have arranged for SHOROC to work closely with the Department of Transport on the feasibility study, demonstrating a strong partnership approach with our councils on this vital project", said Mayor Rose.

Find out more at www.shoroc.com

Ends

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Shore Regional Organisation of Councils – a partnership of Manly, Mosman, Pittwater & Warringah Councils.