

MEDIA RELEASE



SHOROC TRANSPORT SUBMISSION APPEALS FOR BUS RAPID TRANSIT & ROAD UPGRADES

4 May 2012

Practical and effective solutions to the transport woes of the Northern Beaches and Mosman have been put forward by SHOROC in its latest submission to the Transport Minister for urgent inclusion in the NSW Government's Long Term Transport Masterplan.

In April 2012 SHOROC wrote to Minister Berejiklian to respond to the Discussion Paper released on the NSW Long-term Transport Masterplan and the outcomes from the Sydney (North) regional forum on 6 March 2012 hosted by The Hon Gladys Berejiklian MP.

"Our submission points out that the BRT system must be incorporated in great detail in the NSW Transport Master Plan in its very early stages to ensure its inclusion in the long-term vision for transport in NSW. This vision has been sorely lacking for too long, we must ensure this Plan delivers the right customer-facing transport solution for our region " said Jean Hay SHOROC President and Mayor of Manly.

"We have done all the ground work and come up with a transport model that will work for our region"

"The NSW government have looked closely at our proposed model and taken a great positive step in conducting a pre-feasibility study into a Northern Beaches BRT. Now we must ensure this next crucial step is taken and the NSW government commit to constructing the transport infrastructure by adding the detail to its Long-Term Transport Plan".

The Discussion paper identifies that the Pittwater/Spit/Military Rd corridor is one of the top five highly constrained corridors in Sydney facing the greatest congestion pressure now, and in 20 years time, without additional capacity. "This assessment meets with our experience of this corridor as one urgently requiring investment" said Jean Hay.

"However, SHOROC is concerned that the Discussion Paper did not appear to recognise the existing capacity problems of the east-west Warringah Road corridor which conflicts with Transport for NSW's own recent studies which indicate that the east-west corridor along Warringah Road is at capacity now".

Transport NSW own studies show the Warringah Road corridor, particularly the Wakehurst Parkway and Forest Road intersections will exceed peak demand capacity by 2016 without any action.

"Investment in the east-west corridor is imperative given the expected development of a major hospital at Frenchs Forest".

The NSW Government Transport Master Plan includes a 12-month consultation process, that when released in late 2012 will detail how the Government will tackle the transport priorities for NSW.

"SHOROC must continue its fight for a transport solution for the Northern Beaches and Mosman. If the BRT system fails to be included in the NSW Long-Term Transport Plan, all of our efforts including Government funded pre-feasibility study will have been in vain, we mustn't let that happen" added Jean Hay.

The NSW Government has said a draft NSW Long Term Transport Masterplan will be released in mid-2012. Residents are encouraged to have their say at the NSW Government's Long Term Transport Masterplan website www.transportmasterplan.nsw.gov.au

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



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Background Information

In summary, the priorities agreed in SHOROC's regional strategy *Shaping Our Future* include:

- A Bus Rapid Transit system to link Dee Why to Chatswood, Ryde and the CBD
- A Bus Rapid Transit system to the city from Mona Vale with a dedicated peak hour median bus lane and a new underground interchange at Neutral Bay to service buses from Sydney's North West and SHOROC
- Road upgrades for Mona Vale Road, Wakehurst Parkway and the Warringah Road intersections with Wakehurst Parkway and Forrest Way.

More information on these priorities can be found at www.shoroc.com

The SHOROC submission can be downloaded at www.shoroc.com

Ends

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