Organisation's submission to the Sydney Metro City & Southwest: Preferred Infrastructure Report (Application No SSI 17_8256)

The Save T3 Bankstown Line is a new community action group comprising of residents west of Bankstown station. We strongly oppose the Sydenham to Bankstown Metro and the privatisation of public transport. We believe that there is no benefit to public transport from such conversion and more attention should be given to upgrading existing signalling and heavy rail infrastructure.

The Sydenham to Bankstown section of the T3 Bankstown Line should not be converted into Sydney Metro Southwest as it significantly breaks apart a cohesive rail network. It must also be noted that the T3 Bankstown Line currently continues west to Lidcombe and Liverpool beyond Bankstown. Not only is there no patronage demand statistically for a T3 Bankstown Line Metro, but the alienation of 9 stations west of Bankstown is also of significant concern. For the first time since the Sydney Trains network was constructed, the following nine stations of Berala, Regents Park, Sefton, Chester Hill, Leightonfield, Villawood, Carramar, Birrong and Yagoona will no longer have any direct train services to the City.

The number of interchanges and travel times from the nine stations west of Bankstown will increase. Former rail executives John Brew, Ron Christie, Bob O'Loughlin and Dick Day, have already warned that over 19,000 commuters will be forced to interchange because of the Sydenham to Bankstown Metro line. Such increase in interchange adds additional pressure on Lidcombe and Birrong station which are already struggling to cope with the number of commuters interchanging due to the removal of the Liverpool via Regents Park train service (from the Inner West Line) in 2013. We also call for the restoration of the Inner West Line to Liverpool/Bankstown via Regents Park.

The Sydenham to Bankstown Metro line will also remove the 'T3 Liverpool to City express' service which was a significant feature of the 2017 timetable for Southwest Sydney. The 2017 timetable also removed all T1 Western Line express trains from Lidcombe station especially during the peak hour increasing travel times to the city by 50%. Increasing the number of customers interchanging from the Sydney Trains T3 Bankstown Line to all stations T2 line trains only adds to worsening of overcrowding. For the majority of commuters west of Bankstown, interchanging at Bankstown for a Metro train to the City is an increase in overall travel time.

Community consultation with residents west of Bankstown on the T3 Bankstown Line has been shamefully non-existent despite the significant adverse implications of the Metro Southwest project on their journeys. We also believe that the suspension of trains between Lidcombe and Bankstown during construction of the Metro Southwest project should be avoided by with the operation of trains from City to Liverpool via Regents Park (on the former Inner West Line). This would reduce the number of non-Metro stations having to use replacement bus services to just Birrong and Yagoona.

The current government policy of increased urban density along Canterbury Road and the Sydenham to Bankstown rail corridor demands appropriate investment in public transport such as improvements to heavy rail to cope with the increased population. The proposed Metro does not have the capacity to deal with the increased number of commuters and the only feasible form of public transport that can cope with the increased development is an improved heavy rail system and connecting electric bus, and light rail options need to be part of the mix that delivers commuters to the major stations on a heavy rail line.

We recommend that the entire Sydney Metro Southwest (Sydenham to Bankstown) project be cancelled due to the significant disruption to services during and after construction. We recommend the T2 Inner West Line be restored as a frequent City to Liverpool/Bankstown via Regents Park service running alongside a T3 Bankstown Line with upgraded signalling similar to technology being rolled out on the T4 Illawarra Line and T8 Airport/South Line.

The Save T3 Bankstown Line group also notes that there have been reports of lobbyists in favour of increasing development and in support of the the Metro Southwest project that may have breached NSW Legislation – Passenger Transport (General) Regulation 2017 with the distribution of materials to train passengers onboard a number of train services.

We would also like to include the @SaveT3BankstownLine Instagram account and the following 30 reasons why Metro Southwest is madness as part of our organisation's submission. Our Instagram account is at www.instagram.com/SaveT3BankstownLine



When parts of Sydney with no transport links to City are crying out for help, the government decides to rip up an existing railway for no good reason!<u>#noT3metro #sydneymetro #sydneytrains#bankstown</u>



Commuters on T3 west of Bankstown will be left with no choice but to interchange (or drive) to the City!<u>#noT3metro</u> <u>#sydneymetro</u> <u>#sydneytrains#bankstown</u>



The government's so-called "express" Liverpool to City train goes via Bankstown, but with Metro Southwest - that'll be the end of the line! <u>#noT3metro#sydneymetro</u> <u>#sydneytrains</u> <u>#bankstown</u>



It's 2018 but the government wants to take the T3 Bankstown Line back in time to an era where the further away from Sydney you are, the more disconnected you were! #noT3metro #sydneymetro#sydneytrains #bankstown



Ya-gonna be sad when the Bankstown train starts at Bankstown but you're never gonna get a seat because of the 19,000 people being forced onto Metro Southwest. #noT3metro #sydneymetro#sydneytrains #bankstown



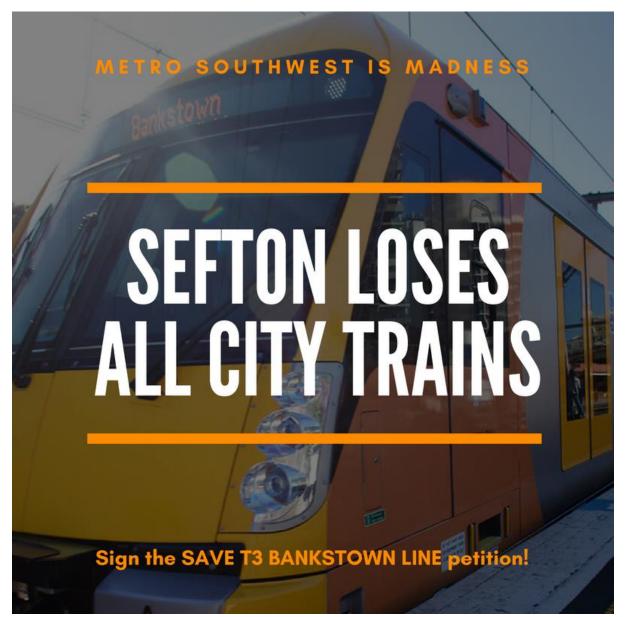
Going to Sydney Uni? The government won't build you a station and now is forcing you to interchange at Bankstown and Central! <u>#noT3metro#sydneymetro</u> <u>#sydneytrains</u> <u>#bankstown</u>



Sydney's forgotten commuters are from Chester Hill. Does the government even know the T3 Bankstown Line actually goes beyond Bankstown? #noT3metro#sydneymetro #sydneytrains #bankstown



There's plans to tear through more communities with a possible Metro line through Condell Park (which probably won't get a station) <u>#noT3metro#sydneymetro</u> <u>#sydneytrains</u> <u>#bankstown</u>



Students will be hit hard by Metro Southwest with many Sefton High students from Punchbowl and Wiley Park losing their direct train! <u>#noT3metro#sydneymetro #sydneytrains #bankstown</u>



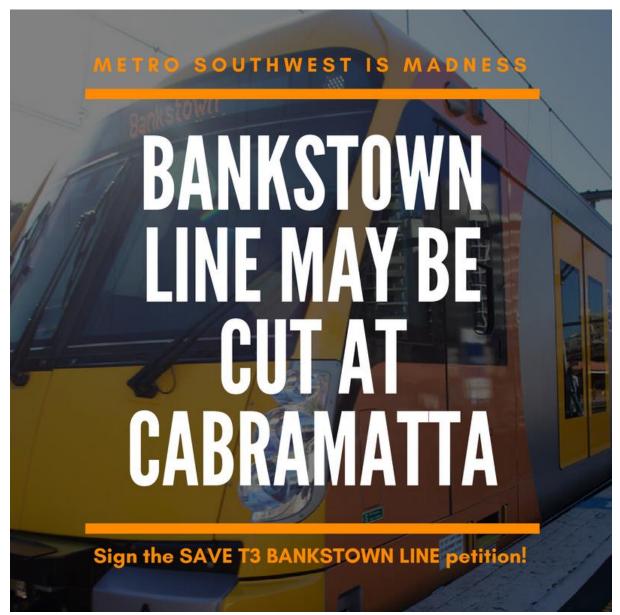
Birrong station needs more than an urgent upgrade, it needs the Inner West Line back (Liverpool and Bankstown via Regents Park) <u>#noT3metro#sydneymetro #sydneytrains</u> <u>#bankstown</u>



If it ain't broke then don't fix it. (The Bankstown Line could do with a signalling upgrade, but there's no real need for Metro) <u>#noT3metro</u> <u>#sydneymetro#sydneytrains</u> <u>#bankstown</u>



Throwback to when there were express trains to City from Regents Park... now there's only a forced interchange at Lidcombe or Bankstown! <u>#noT3metro#sydneymetro #sydneytrains #bankstown</u>



Government plans drawn up since 2012 hint at more cuts to the T3 Bankstown Line! <u>#noT3metro#sydneymetro</u> <u>#sydneytrains</u> <u>#bankstown</u>



Tiring day at work? You'll be standing because of Metro Southwest on the T3 Bankstown Line.<u>#noT3metro #sydneymetro #sydneytrains#bankstown</u>



Going to the City? might as well go away from the City and head west to Cabramatta for another train that will get you a seat in the morning peak!#noT3metro #sydneymetro #sydneytrains#bankstown



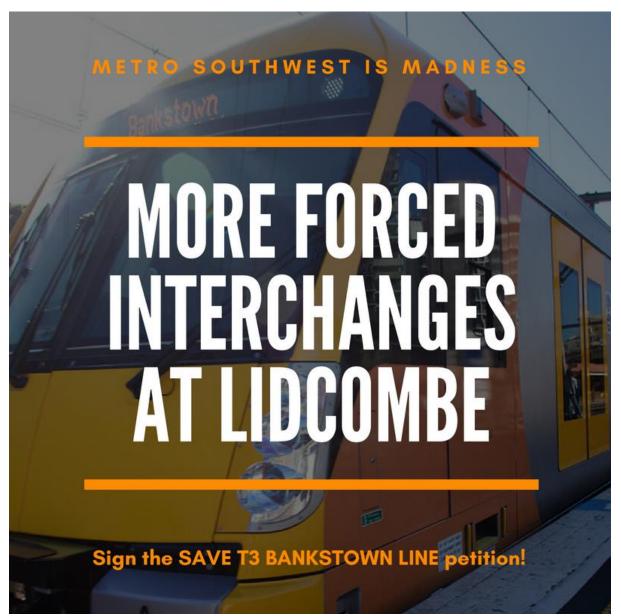
Metro Southwest increases pressure on the T2 Leppington Line with more commuters changing at Cabramatta for a direct train to City! <u>#noT3metro#sydneymetro</u> <u>#sydneytrains</u> <u>#bankstown</u>



All Metro Southwest does is to fatten up the back pockets of property developers. <u>#noT3metro#sydneymetro #sydneytrains #bankstown</u>



Will it take another world war for the government to realise that its Metro Southwest plan leaves the area worse off? <u>#noT3metro</u> <u>#sydneymetro</u> <u>#sydneytrains#bankstown</u>



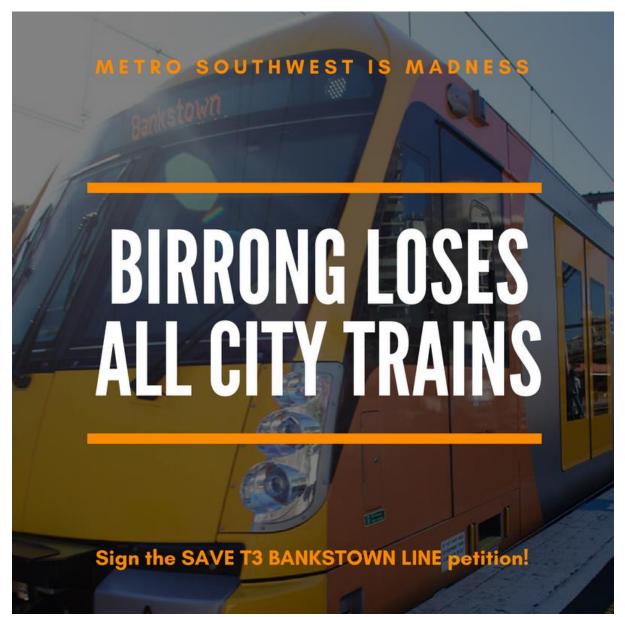
Overcrowding at Lidcombe is going from bad to worse with Bankstown Line terminating and now the Metro Southwest is forcing more commuters to change for City trains! #noT3metro #sydneymetro#sydneytrains #bankstown



Metro Southwest isn't really about transport, it's actually to allow property developers to destroy heritage with high rise! <u>#noT3metro</u> <u>#sydneymetro#sydneytrains</u> <u>#bankstown</u>



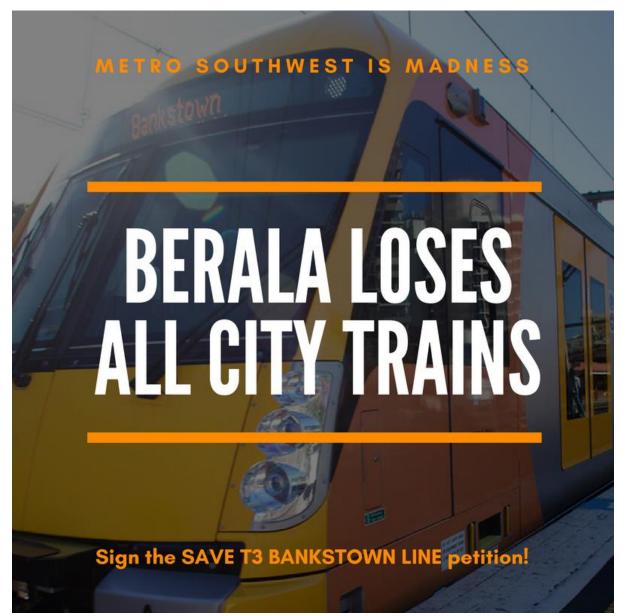
It's like the government wants to keep Villawood away from the rest of Sydney! <u>#noT3metro#sydneymetro #sydneytrains</u> <u>#bankstown</u>



Remember the good days when there were 2 direct routes to City from Birrong, now there's going to be none! <u>#noT3metro #sydneymetro #sydneytrains#bankstown</u>



The government is already preparing to sell of the Metro to foreign buyers before it's even built.<u>#noT3metro</u> <u>#sydneymetro</u> <u>#sydneytrains#bankstown</u>



Berala once had a 22 minute direct City commute but with cuts and Metro Southwest, forget about a fast train because there's no train to City!<u>#noT3metro</u> <u>#sydneymetro</u> <u>#sydneytrains#bankstown</u>



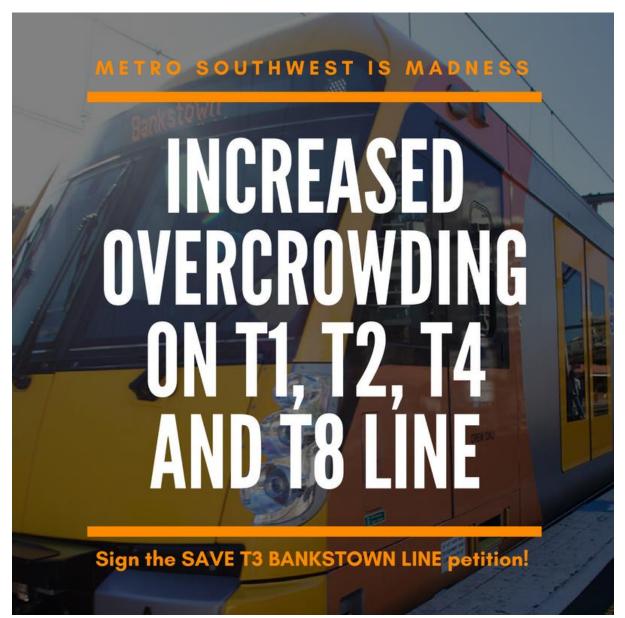
It's not just Sydenham to Bansktown that will lose train services during Metro construction! <u>#noT3metro#sydneymetro #sydneytrains</u> <u>#bankstown</u>



Metro trains are aren't actually much better than existing doubledeckers. <u>#noT3metro #sydneymetro#sydneytrains #bankstown</u>



From Berala, Regents Park to Sefton, Chester Hill, Leightonfield, Villawood and Carramar as well as Birrong and Yagoona - these communities will be cut off from Sydney! #noT3metro #sydneymetro#sydneytrains #bankstown



T3 commuters outside of Sydenham - Bankstown will be forced onto full trains at Lidcombe, Cabramatta and the Illawarra Line. <u>#noT3metro#sydneymetro #sydneytrains #bankstown</u>



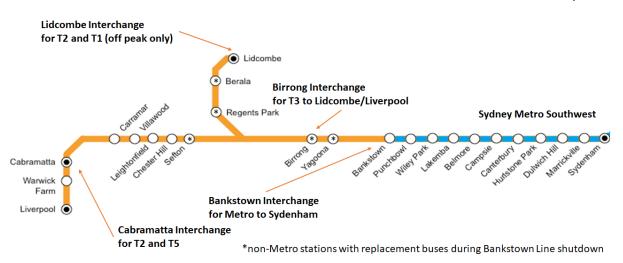
Former Sydney rail executives warn that Metro Southwest worsens the train network's ability to recover from incidents and will not improve reliability.<u>#noT3metro</u> <u>#sydneymetro</u> <u>#sydneytrains#bankstown</u>



Going to Town Hall, Wynyard, Circular Quay, St James or Musuem? You'll have to change at Bankstown and at Central. <u>#noT3metro#sydneymetro #sydneytrains</u> <u>#bankstown</u>



Warning: the Bankstown Metro forces 19,000 commuters to interchange for trains to City<u>#noT3metro</u>



Converting 'Sydenham - Bankstown' to Metro is designed to fatten the wallets of property developers at the expense of the community. Cutting the Bankstown Line in half disconnects 9 stations between Berala - Carramar - Yagoona from the rest of Sydney! We need to keep heavy rail on the Bankstown Line and restore trains to City via Strathfield.