

019



Stephen Boyd
Committee Secretary
House of Representatives Standing Committee on
Infrastructure, Transport and Cities
Parliament House
Canberra ACT 2600

Your Ref:	Z19/245130
Our Ref:	Z19/258008
File:	IW-910.05.01.022
Date:	20 November 2019

Dear Mr Boyd

WOLLONGONG CITY COUNCIL – SUBMISSION RELATING TO OPTIONS FOR FINANCING FASTER RAIL

Wollongong City Council appreciates the opportunity to make a submission to the Inquiry into Options for Financing Faster Rail.

We appreciate the priority given to provide faster rail journey times between Wollongong and Sydney. This is a significant priority for Council as the commute time between the Illawarra and Sydney on the current Illawarra rail corridor is currently more than hour and a half each way, significantly impacting on the quality of life for those working in Sydney.

Council also strongly supports the proposal to complete the Maldon to Dombarton rail link as a dual-purpose passenger and freight line to provide access to South Western Sydney and the new Badgerys Creek Aerotropolis which has the potential to transform and provide mutual benefits to the local economies of Wollongong, South Western Sydney and the Aerotropolis. This dual-purpose rail link to is referred to locally as the South Western Illawarra Rail Link or 'SWIRL'.

Council will be happy to be involved in any proposals to develop and deliver faster rail between Wollongong and Sydney but we have no specific suggestions for a funding model to finance faster rail.

Again, thank you for this opportunity to provide feedback on this important strategic initiative that deals with issues of significant concern within our local community. If you require any additional information, I invite you to contact Council's Manager of Infrastructure Strategy and Planning, Mr Mike Dowd

Yours faithfully

Greg Doyle
General Manager
Wollongong City Council