

## **Barton Deakin Brief: New South Wales Government's Sydney Metro West**

**14 November 2016**

Today, the Premier, the Hon Mike Baird MP has announced New South Wales' next major public transport project, dubbed 'Sydney Metro West', to be funded by the \$16 billion Ausgrid sale and private investment.

This Barton Deakin Brief outlines the government's new railway for Western Sydney, the Sydney Metro West.

### **Background**

The NSW Government entered into a binding agreement with an all-Australian consortium for the partial lease of Ausgrid on the 20 October 2016. The Premier, the Hon Mike Baird MP said the transaction will deliver gross proceeds of \$16.189 billion to the State and will fund infrastructure projects as part of the Government's \$20 billion Rebuilding NSW Plan.

The proceeds of this partial sale of Ausgrid along with private investment will go toward the Sydney Metro West, a new underground metro railway for Western Sydney. Sydney Metro West will effectively double rail capacity between Parramatta and the Sydney CBD providing a direct connection between the two CBDs.

### **Sydney Metro West**

The Sydney Metro West aims to address Sydney's rapid growth, with the city's population to increase to over 6 million over the next 20 years. An estimated 420,000 people are expected to move into the corridor between Greater Parramatta and central Sydney over the next 20 years.

Sydney Metro railway stations are planned in:

- Parramatta
- Sydney Olympic Park
- The Bays Precinct
- Sydney CBD

The Minister for Transport, the Hon Andrew Constance MP announced that Sydney Metro West would complement the existing T1 Western Line. The Government is currently delivering Stages 1 and 2 of Sydney Metro which is 66 kilometres of new metro rail opening from 2019.

Minister Constance has raised the prospect or goal of new public transport operating without timetables. The Government aims for 40,000 people per hour in each direction to be moved by the new rail line.

The project is expected to be built largely underground and be operational in the second half of the 2020s. The NSW Government will investigate innovative ways to reduce travel times between the



two CBDs as well as the final number of stations along the route will be determined through consultation with industry and the community.

Sydney Metro West is expected to integrate with long-term transport planning for Western Sydney including Parramatta Light Rail, rail currently being investigated for the future Western Sydney Airport and the Western Sydney Rail Upgrade Program targeting capacity on the T1 Western Line.

The NSW Government plans to integrate transport and land use planning along the corridor. The project supports the Greater Sydney Commission's plan for a central Parramatta River City connected to the Eastern Harbour City by providing improved travel times and service frequency between the two CBDs.

Transport for NSW will begin engaging with community, industry and key stakeholders in early 2017 to get feedback on the project.

### **Further Information**

For the Transport Minister's media release, click [here](#).

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