Options for Multimodal Public Transport Development in Victoria

PTUA

Public transport: for mobility and productivity

- Footscray station: currently 33 trains to city in busiest hour
- 17,000 passengers (cons. estimate)
- West Gate Bridge citybound capacity: 7,500 cars per hour



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Public transport: Not just for the CBD

- The CBD is won: but needs work to maintain capability
- Where public transport is failing is in the suburbs yet no capacity shortage



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Accessibility: suburbs need work _



Figure 4. Percentage of jobs accessible within 40 minutes travel (by car and by public transport)



Transport patterns: local, radial



- 86% of all journeys to work here are either local, or located along the rail corridor
- All 86% within the ambit of radially and locally focussed public transport - yet currently only the 8% going to CBD are fully catered for

Perth shows value of rail backbone

- Prior to 2006, buses to Mandurah carried 16,000 passengers each weekday
- The train service was forecast to lift this to 25,000 passengers each weekday
- By second year of operation, the train was carrying 50,000 passengers per weekday: it now carries 75,000

Accommodating rail expansion

- Capacity limiting factors in Melbourne: EWLNA's Analysis of Rail Capacity (2007)
 - Limited sectorisation
 - Layovers at Flinders Street
 - Dwell times at central city stations
- Trains-per-hour capacity primarily limited by constraints of signalling system

- Opportunity to learn from others' experience

High capacity signalling

 Many systems available, but most share common technical attributes

- 'moving block' not 'fixed block'

- In-cab, rather than track-based, signalling

- Paris RER and London Underground use two different implementations, obtain similar results
 - 33 trains per hour on London's Victoria Line

Paris RER: a case study

- Like Melb Metro lines, a radial heavy rail network, branching lines
- Most heavily used is the 'A' line (in red)



RER 'A' line timetable

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Neuilly-Plaisance		7 43			749		7 53	
▼ Val de Fontenay		7 46	7 48		7 52		7 56	7 58
Vincennes	7 48	7 50	7 52	7 54	7 56	7 58	8 00	8 0 2
Nation	7 51	7 53	7 55	7 57	7 59	801	8 0 3	8 05
Gare de Lyon	7 55	7 57	7 59	8 01	803	8 0 5	807	8 0 9
Chatelet-Les Halles	7 58	8 00	8 02	8 04	806	808	810	812
Auber	8 01	8 03	8 05	807	8 0 9	811	813	815
Charles de Gaulle-Etoile	8 05	8 07	8 09	811	813	815	817	819
La Defense (Grande Arche)	8 09	811	8,13	815	817	819	821	8,23
Nanterre-Prefecture	8 11	815		817	8,20	821	825	
Houilles Carrieres-sur-Seine Sartrouville		8 20			8,27		8 30	
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- Note trains scheduled every 2 minutes in the central area
- Again, this line branches: observe junctions at Vincennes and Nanterre

Comparing costs and benefits

- London Underground upgrade (Bombardier)
 - 310 track km, 113 stations, 246 trains
 - Brownfield project (operating lines)
 - Budget cost £354 million (\$570 million)
- Melbourne suburban network
 - 830 track km, 200 stations, ~300 trains (incl V/Line)
 - High level industry estimate \$3b for entire network, though London figures suggest \$1.5b-\$2b realistic
 - Achievable capacity ~30–33tph in peak, compared

with 16–24tph limit on line groups currently

'Local + Feeder' bus network

- Role of buses: serve local travel needs, and connect homes with railway stations
 - 'Network effects' allow doing more with less
 - Network coverage: not past all front doors, but within walking distance of all homes
 - Route design based on providing quickest route to nearest activity centre / rail station
 - Fare system must ensure bus travel and nearest rail station within same fare zone(s)

A package of measures

- No magic pill: effective investment needs to be spread across a set of measures
 - High capacity signalling
 - Level crossing elimination
 - Staffing to manage dwell times
 - Targeted rail network extensions
 - Bus network improvements
 - Multi-destination focus: not just CBD
 - Melbourne Metro: 10-20 year timeframe