

Attention: Mr Bill Forrest
Your email of 22 June 2015 refers.

MAJOR PUBLIC TRANSPORT ADVOCACY ISSUES IN THE CITY OF WYNDHAM

Residents of the City of Wyndham are highly car dependent because the municipality has not received sufficient investment in public transport infrastructure and services. This is causing major imposts on household budgets, environmental degradation and it negatively impacts the local economy.

This deficiency has become more pronounced in recent years because of the requirement to cater for substantial population growth. The PTUA therefore recommends that the City of Wyndham:

1. Join broad based campaigning to overturn the Commonwealth (Abbott) government embargo on federal spending on urban public transport.
2. In the light of latent demand on the Werribee line and early evidence of high patronage demand on the RRL, including on weekends, maintain a particular campaign focus on higher frequency services on both of these services. Note in this respect that hourly services at weekends for Geelong passengers, which have always been inadequate, is now compounded with the recent addition of new stations when the RRL was opened, to the detriment of Geelong and Wyndham passengers.
3. Pursue an earlier start and higher service frequencies for the Werribee line on Sundays.
4. Campaign for the missing rail link between Werribee and Wyndham Vale.
5. For the purpose of reducing local motor car journeys, especially during peak times, elevate advocacy for higher frequency route bus services with timely connections with rail services on the Werribee line and the Regional Rail Link.
6. Bear in mind the cost impost and dysfunctionality of significantly increased parking at railway stations, relative to well-performed connecting bus services. Car parking generates local congestion in activity centres/ transport nodes and will never provide sufficient capacity to meet anticipated demand.
7. The table below shows that available railway car parks only meet a small proportion of current rail patronage in Wyndham. Foreseeable growth in rail patronage suggests that major expanded parking capacity to meet new demand is impractical.

Stations in City of Wyndham	Currently available parking	Adult weekday rail patronage (2011/12)
Laverton	947	5720
Aircraft	201	1062
Williams Landing	500	N/A
Hoppers Crossing	566	5132
Werribee	582	3877

8. Identify mode shift as a strategic environmental and land use imperative for Wyndham in addition to being the key to relieving road congestion. Set targets for modal shift from the private motor car to public transport in Wyndham.

9. In the light of the importance of the freight and distribution industry to the City of Wyndham campaign for rail links to take the lion's share of container freight to and from the Port of Melbourne and regional distribution centres to reduce environmental impacts and to minimise heavy truck movements on the road network in Wyndham.