

Please accept this as input to the above discussion paper. Specifically, this submission is in response to *components to a sustainable city*, item 5, "Develop sustainable transport networks."

I submit that rail transport, in its various forms, is the only genuinely sustainable mode for all main transport spines within and between our Australian cities of the future.

This is for both passengers and freight. Rail transport corridors should be locked into land use planning, and protected against encroachment for the long term horizon.

Urban rail expansion is a long term investment, and the Federal Government should contribute to it's cost.

Certainly, electrified rail and rolling stock is expensive to buy. But it does have a credible service life of around 30 years, and it will carry an awful lot of people during that time. This it will do in a very clean and energy efficient manner.

By comparison, a fleet of buses (or trucks) on a similar route over the same time span will give off a lot of unfriendly waste products in the form of used tyres, lubricants, coolants, filters and batteries etc. The whole vehicle fleet would also be typically replaced twice during that period of time, and consume vast amounts of fuel in one form or another.

Wherever passenger rail is installed it becomes a great attractor to high density residential development, simply because of its wide popularity as a transport medium.

Thank you for this opportunity to comment.

Yours sincerely,
Keith Jones.