

## **Gladys Berejiklian MP**

Minister for Transport

## **MEDIA RELEASE**

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## **EXPANDING LIGHT RAIL: POTENTIAL ROUTES SHORTLISTED**

The potential routes for expanding the light rail network through the CBD, to the University of Sydney and the University of NSW have been shortlisted for detailed assessment, Minister for Transport Gladys Berejiklian announced today.

The shortlisted routes will be assessed over the next six months as part of the Light Rail Strategic Plan to determine which are the most feasible.

"The NSW Government is committed to expanding the light rail network," Ms Berejiklian said.

"Key to expanding the network is doing the homework required to see where light rail will best fit into Sydney's CBD and the transport corridors to the University of Sydney and the University of NSW.

"This is an exciting step forward as these routes have been identified as having the best potential for light rail.

"Significantly, the George Street alignment in the CBD was assessed as being the best option for the city, and the NSW Government looks forward to working closely with key stakeholders like the City of Sydney and business groups to further progress the potential of this route.

"Transport experts will now examine the shortlisted routes for traffic and bus network integration potential, land use opportunities, engineering and constructability, passenger demand, capital and operating costs and economic benefit.

"Putting light rail into the CBD and these busy transport corridors is a significant undertaking, and diligent examination must be done to properly assess the huge impact it would have on other road traffic as well as business activity.

"Unlike the previous government, the NSW Liberals & Nationals are committed to doing the proper planning so an expanded light rail network can meet the needs of passengers and the city now and well into the future."

Key stakeholders will meet at the next light rail round table on Tuesday 13 December to scrutinise and discuss the shortlisted routes.

Media: Sam Fairlie-Cuninghame 0407 795 782