

14 October 2016

Lithgow City Council

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Office of the Mayor

Reference File: F09298 (16/211187)

Trish Doyle, MP  
Member for the Blue Mountains  
132 Macquarie Road  
SPRINGWOOD NSW 2777

Dear Trish,

**Wide Bodied Trains on the Blue Mountains Line**

This matter has been brought to my attention by Councillor Don McGregor after he attended the recent meeting of the Blackheath Alliance, which represents residents from Medlow Bath, Blackheath, Bell and Mount Victoria. Their great concern is about the introduction of the wide bodied trains on the Blue Mountains line.

Residents noted that while station platforms could be adjusted to accommodate the wider carriages, the Great Western Highway railway bridge that is currently being worked on as part of the Mount Victoria Safety Upgrade would need to be widened to accommodate the wide bodied trains. This will also need to occur on the 'ten tunnels' section of the line between Bell and Lithgow, a much more challenging project!

Many upper Blue Mountains, residents, students and workers rely on a regular rail services for transport to schools, tertiary education and medical services in Lithgow.

Trish, I would greatly appreciate the Minister for Transport and Infrastructure to reassure residents that the rail service will not be replaced by a less reliable bus service?

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Mark Greenhill", with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

MARK GREENHILL, OAM  
Mayor

Copies to: Councillor Stephen Lesslie, Mayor of Lithgow City Council.

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The city within  
a world heritage  
national park