

SOUTH COAST LABOUR COUNCIL

MEDIA RELEASE

FRIDAY, MAY 05, 2006

Fast Rail the Answer to Petrol Hike for Commuters

The South Coast Labour Council has put a Fast Rail link back on the public agenda following endorsement by unions at a meeting last night, of a plan to gather community support for a State Government funded feasibility study.

Arthur Rorris, South Coast Labour Council Secretary said,
"Workers commuting to work are bearing the brunt of the massive hike in oil prices."

"With more than 50,000 new residents in the Dapto development alone in the coming decades and the limitations on our existing rail line, Fast Rail must be viewed as a real and efficient option to transport our people to and from Sydney."

"We want to talk with business representatives and Local Government in the region to maximise community support for a feasibility study into FastRail options for our region."

"It has been several years now since the last Fast Rail option 'MAGLEV' was rejected by the Government, largely for cost reasons."

"It is pretty clear now that costs of commuting, currently borne by the commuters through petrol prices and lost time on conventional rail journeys, out way the only real alternative which is a Fast Rail option, which may require a significant initial capital investment but repay dividends many times that to the local economy once operational."

Resolution of South Coast Labour Council attached.

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