



## Rail, Tram and Bus Union

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**MEDIA RELEASE**

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# **Workers call for dodgy Bankstown line plans to be axed**

Transport workers are calling on the NSW Transport Minister to admit his planned changes to the line are unnecessary and to cancel them immediately.

Rail, Tram and Bus Union (RTBU) NSW Secretary Alex Claassens said the NSW Government's plans to close down the current line and replace it with a privately-run, driverless, single-deck, inferior service are ridiculous and will cause unprecedented chaos for residents and commuters. It has been revealed today that 23 bridges and underpasses along the line will now also need to be upgraded as part of the plans.

"It's not too late for the NSW Transport Minister to admit this whole thing is a terrible idea and to axe the plans," Mr Claassens said.

"The plans for the Bankstown line are completely illogical and are going to cause complete chaos for residents along the line.

"The current rail service works well. The line doesn't suffer from the overcrowding some other lines do, and there is plenty of scope to increase the current services available.

"But the Government is intent on putting profits ahead of public needs.

Mr Claassens said a desire to introduce the metro clearly stems from the NSW Government's desire to privatise our essential services.

"This is a classic example of the NSW Government's fixation with privatising everything it can get its hands on with no regard for the impact it will have on NSW residents.

"The only people set to benefit from these changes to the Bankstown rail line are the overseas-based private operators who are set to run it. There's no benefit whatsoever to commuters.

"The Transport Minister should put his pride aside and axe this disastrous plan."

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