

STATEMENT FOR WERRIWA PRESS:



PRIME MINISTER

1974 BUDGET - LIVERPOOL RAIL PROJECTS

The Australian Government will provide two-thirds of the \$21.5 million cost of constructing a new double track railway between East Hills and Glenfield. This will duplicate the existing Riverwood-East Hills section, and when completed, the new rail link will provide greatly improved services to Sydney for travellers from the rapidly developing areas south of Liverpool.

"This is an example of the greatly increased emphasis the Australian Government places on improving the long-neglected urban areas of Australia, such as Liverpool," the Prime Minister and Member for Werriwa, Mr. Gough Whitlam, Q.C., M.P., said today. He was commenting on Budget allocations to urban public transport.

He pointed out that express services from Campbelltown to Central using this route could save up to 17 minutes in travelling time. Other services would also benefit because delays on the Liverpool/Central route would be avoided. In addition, the new line should help to ease traffic congestion in the Liverpool area, since it would reduce pressure and dependence on road transport.

Mr. Whitlam said that the new railway should be seen as part of the Australian Government's practical commitment to improving the quality of life in the cities.

"Combined with our other urban initiatives, such as acquiring land for homes, developing new growth centres like the Holsworthy/Campbelltown/Camden/ Appin area, and overcoming the backlog in sewerage programs, it represents a major breakthrough for our cities and the people who must live in them," Mr. Whitlam said.

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