



# Media Release

**David Campbell MP**

**Minister for Transport**

**Minister for the Illawarra**

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## **NEW RAIL TRACKS BEING LAID ON THE SOUTH COAST LINE**

22 September 2008

Minister for Transport and the Illawarra David Campbell said over six kilometres of new rail track is to be laid between Corrimal and Thirroul on the South Coast Line, to provide better services for regular commuters.

“The work will start next week and while it will provide greater safety and reliability, there will also be an impact on rail services while the new tracks are laid,” Mr Campbell said.

“If you are travelling during this period, please remember to plan ahead and check the bus and train times before you travel.

“This marks the first stage of a reconstruction program which will upgrade track on the rail corridor between Wollongong and Waterfall over the coming years.

“During this stage, RailCorp will replace timber with concrete sleepers, install new rails, adjust overhead wiring and clean-up the general rail corridor.”

**The work will impact both weekday and long weekend train services on the South Coast Line:**

**Weekdays: Monday 29 September to Friday 3 October and then from Tuesday 7 October to Friday 10 October.**

During this time buses will replace trains between Wollongong and Waterfall.

Trains between Bomaderry/Port Kembla and Wollongong will operate to an amended timetable and most trains between Waterfall and Central will continue to operate to the normal weekday timetable.

Mr Campbell said direct train services would continue to operate during peak periods, in the peak direction for South Coast commuters travelling to and from Sydney.

**In the morning peak:**

- Direct trains will operate from South Coast Line stations to Central until around 8am. These trains will depart stations between Kiama, Dapto, Port Kembla or Wollongong and Bulli up to 15 minutes earlier than the normal weekday timetable.
- Trains will operate to normal timetable between Thirroul and Central.

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For further information: **Brett Zarb – 0417 256 563**

**In the afternoon peak:**

- Some direct trains will operate from Central to South Coast Line stations. Trains will arrive at stations between Bulli and Wollongong, Port Kembla, Dapto or Kiama up to 15 minutes later than the normal weekday timetable.
- Trains will operate to normal timetable between Central and Thirroul.

**Over the long weekend, 4 – 6 October:**

- Buses will replace trains between Thirroul and Waterfall.
- Direct trains will continue to operate between Kiama and Central but will not stop at stations between Austinmer and Otford. These trains will operate to an amended timetable.

“Brochures will soon be available at South Coast Line stations with full details on the amended train and bus timetables.”

Mr Campbell said the track reconstruction program on the South Coast Line was a continuation of the work that began on the Eastern Suburbs & Illawarra Line in 2006.

“Since then we’ve rebuilt over 11 kilometres of track between Heathcote and Waterfall. The next step is to reconstruct the track on the South Coast Line between Waterfall and Wollongong.

“The total cost of the track reconstruction program between Waterfall and Wollongong is approximately \$85 million and is expected to be complete in 2012.

For more information about the changes visit the CityRail website at [www.cityrail.info](http://www.cityrail.info) or call the Transport Infoline on 131500.