



Media Release

David Campbell MP

Minister for Transport

Minister for the Illawarra

\$1 MILLION FOR ILLAWARRA RAIL CORRIDOR

Friday 2 January 2009

Minister for Transport David Campbell today announced a \$1 million contract for maintenance projects over the next year along the Illawarra rail corridor.

Mr Campbell said the maintenance will take place between Como and Bomaderry, including the Cronulla and Port Kembla branches.

“This investment to upgrade the rail corridor on the Illawarra and South Coast lines will help improve safety and reliability on the CityRail network,” Mr Campbell said.

“The maintenance program will involve repairing fencing which has been cut by vandals to gain access to the corridor to carry out graffiti or take short cuts across the tracks.

“Further programs are planned for the removal of unsightly graffiti, tree trimming and rubbish removal along the corridor.

“These works will not only help prevent trespassers entering the rail corridor, which put lives at risk and unnecessarily delay trains, but will also create a cleaner and safer rail corridor.

“The upgrades will create a more comfortable ride for passengers, many of whom travel long distances every day to work in Sydney’s CBD.”

Mr Campbell said contracts for further fencing repairs as well as graffiti and rubbish removal are expected to be progressively awarded from December 2008.

“These upgrades will be lasting improvements that will keep services moving in the Illawarra region,” Mr Campbell said.

“The CityRail network is quite extensive and preventing trespass and vandalism in the rail corridor is something we take very seriously.

“Transit Officers continue to conduct regular patrols along the rail corridor with an emphasis on known hot spot locations.

“Uniformed and plain clothed Transit Officers work closely with a dedicated NSW Police Rail Vandalism Task Force to target vandals across the CityRail network.

“The Rees Government is dedicated to ensuring a safe and comfortable journey for CityRail commuters.”

For further information: **Sabina Husic – 0401 586 078**