

## **MEDIA RELEASE**

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## REVITALISING NEWCASTLE: DESIGN REVEALED FOR WICKHAM TRANSPORT INTERCHANGE

NSW Premier Mike Baird and Transport Minister Andrew Constance today unveiled the new design for the transport interchange at Wickham – a key project that will link customers with trains, buses, taxis and create employment in Newcastle.

"The Wickham transport interchange is a key part of the NSW Government's plan to revitalise Newcastle, which will unlock the city's potential and create numerous new jobs in the process," Mr Baird said.

"The state-of-the-art transport interchange will allow for the future development of Newcastle Light Rail that will help to reconnect the city with the foreshore."

Mr Constance said feedback on the original design prompted an update to the plans.

"We've listened and made design changes that reflect the city's history, but changes that also show its future," Mr Constance said.

"We want to create a striking public space that not only looks good, but will provide easy access for public transport customers.

"I'm pleased the new modern design also pays homage to Newcastle's industrial past as a coal and steel port."

Further feedback will be sought from residents, businesses and Council in the coming weeks to finalise the Wickham interchange design, including urban design elements, landscaping and public art.

The Wickham transport interchange is expected to open in 2017, allowing the design to incorporate the new intercity train fleet.

"We recently announced that four consortia have been shortlisted to tender for the supply and maintenance of a new state-of-the-art intercity train fleet for NSW – providing unprecedented levels of comfort, convenience and reliability," Mr Constance said.

"We want to ensure the new station integrates with our new intercity trains seamlessly, providing the best outcome for customers."

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