

Mosman Daily

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Touching the brakes on B-Line

Caroline Tang

State Government dumps bus layover in lead-up to by-election

THE NSW Government has performed a partial B-Line backflip 24 days out from the North Shore by-election.

Transport and Infrastructure Minister Andrew Constance announced on Wednesday the planned M30 bus layover on Military Rd, Mosman, had been dumped after community feedback on the B-Line.

The proposed permanent layover would have adversely impacted businesses

between Spit Junction and Mosman fire station by blocking shopfronts and taking over parking.

Mosman Council has asked B-Line authorities if the M30 bus service could share the old Spit Junction cinema site with the B-Line.

The B-Line plans include a new citybound indented bus bay and bus stop on the site.

Mr Constance said transport authorities would

investigate alternatives for the M30 bus layover on Military Rd.

"The current arrangements for the M30 layover will remain in place until a long-term solution is finalised," Mr Constance said.

"We will continue to liaise with stakeholders and the community to hear and address their concerns."

The proposed rapid bus system will aim to provide

more frequent and reliable services between the northern beaches and Sydney CBD from late 2017.

Critics call the B-Line a "Band-Aid solution" which will benefit the northern beaches at the expense of the lower north shore.

An affected group of lower north shore residents have started a petition to "halt the B-Line" and plan to gather at least 500 signatures by April

7, to submit to the NSW Legislative Assembly.

The petition is available in Cremorne shops, including: Shot on Military Cafe, Cremorne Newsagency and Cremorne Town Centre Pharmacy.

Cremorne resident John Lucas, a spokesman for the group of residents who started the petition, said no one the group had spoken to believed the

B-Line would benefit them.

"We receive many comments on what a waste of money the B-Line will be and that they should just put the money towards the tunnel," Mr Lucas said.

"The B-Line will turn Military Rd into another Parramatta Rd. The current proposals are definitely win/lose, with the North Shore electorate the loser."

Visit handsoffberejiklian.com.au for more information about the campaign against the B-Line.