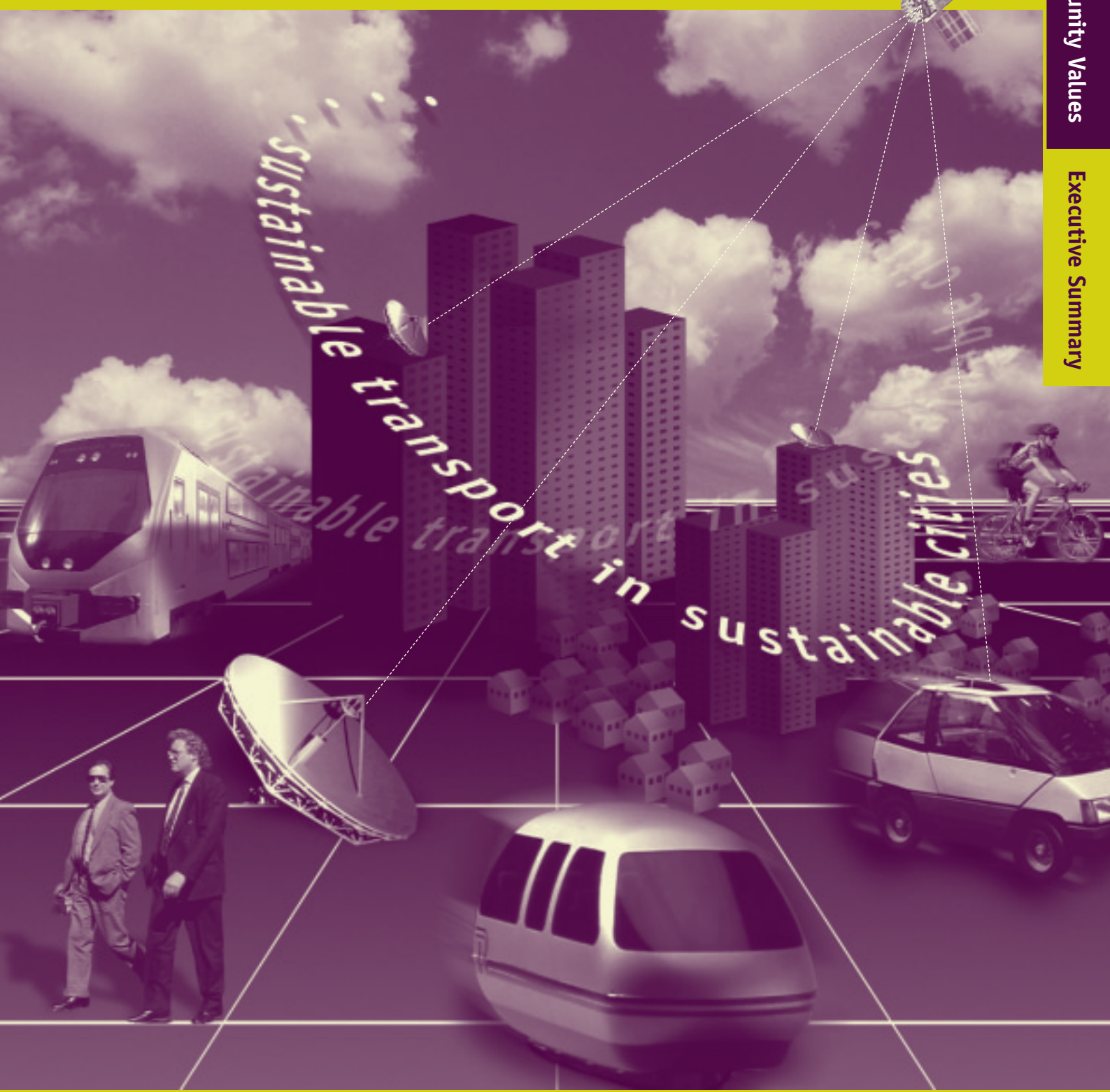


# "Community Values"

Community Values

Executive Summary



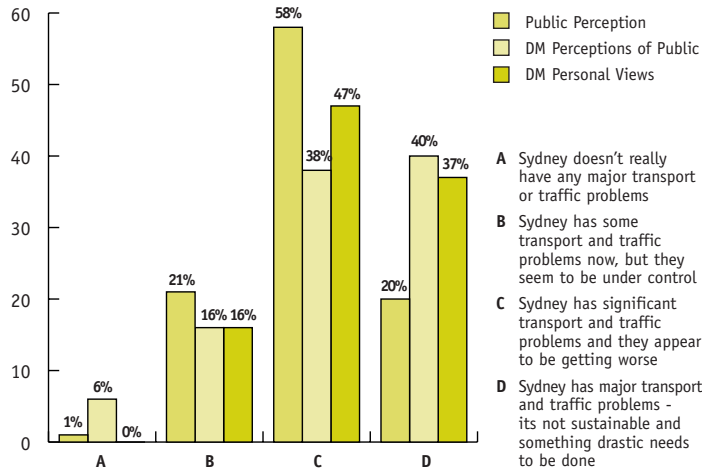
## Executive Summary



# THE SUSTAINABLE TRANSPORT IN SUSTAINABLE CITIES PROJECT

Community Values Research Report - What the Community Values in Transport

## Perception of Current Transport Problems



This Community Values survey of Greater Sydney has revealed that residents have a deep and passionate interest in major issues affecting their city. However they perceive a lack of effective overall long-term planning for the city.

The study identifies community attitudes, values, expectations and responses concerning Sydney's transport and land use planning.

The study was undertaken for the University of Sydney's Warren Centre as part of its **Sustainable Transport in Sustainable Cities** project. This major

project launched in March 2000 by the Minister for Roads and Transport, Mr Carl Scully, brings together governments and industry to focus on new and better transport solutions for Sydney.

More than 1300 people participated in the study, first in focus groups, then by phone and finally through a written submission. Key decision-makers in the NSW transport sector were also interviewed.

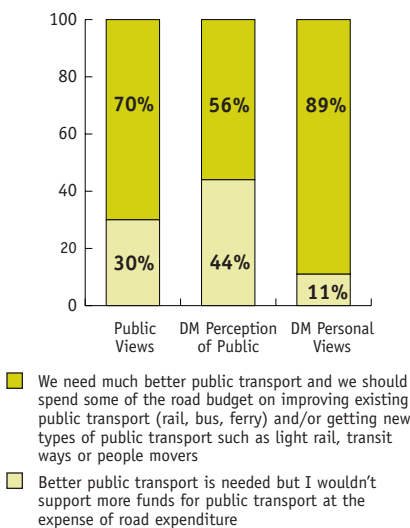
## KEY FINDINGS

What has emerged from the study is broad agreement that there are significant transport problems and a loud call for better, long-term planning Sydney-wide.

### Residents

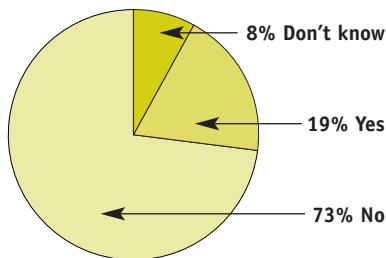
- Sydney residents have a deep and passionate interest in major issues affecting their city. Lack of evidence of long-term planning is a major concern for residents with support for a Sydney-wide planning and development authority.
- Traffic and transport are perceived as serious problems. Almost four in five (78%) of the residents believe Sydney has significant transport and traffic problems, with twenty percent believing the problems are major and that something drastic needs to be done about them.
- Road congestion is the number one issue for them with housing affordability, greenhouse gas emissions and air quality following as very important issues.
- Sydney residents feel strongly about the need to develop public transport infrastructure and are prepared to pay for this at the expense of road funding. Almost three-quarters (73%) of respondents believe that not enough money and resources are being invested in Sydney's public transport. To a lesser extent (52%), they also want increased road infrastructure, but not at the expense of public transport.
- Almost two-thirds of residents surveyed opted for demand management rather than building more freeways to manage the congestion problem.

## Funding Public Transport from the Road Budget

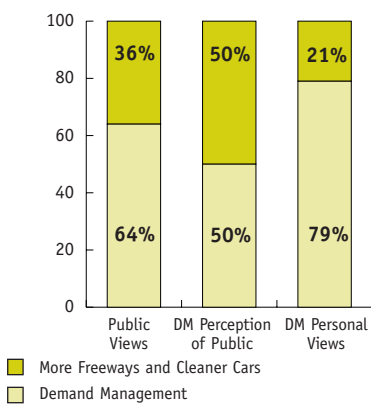


Clean Green Cars

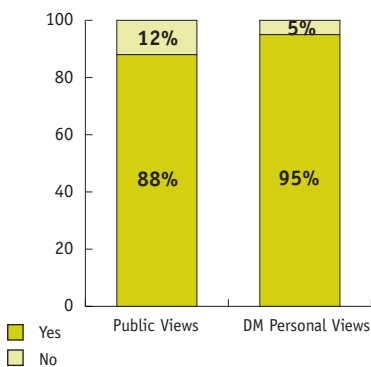
**Are enough money and resources being invested in Sydney's public Transport**



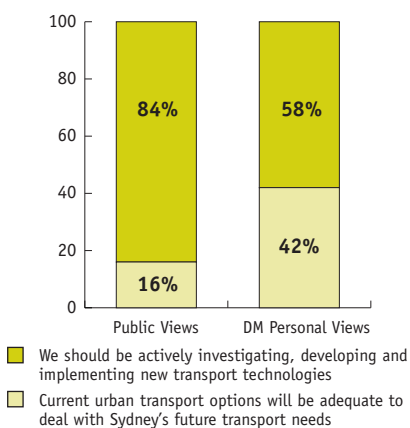
**New Roads versus Demand Management**



**Should State Government put Funding into Sub-Regional Development**



**Current Transport will be Adequate vs Investing in New Technologies**



- There is very strong support for development of both sub-regional centres in Sydney (e.g. Parramatta, Chatswood, Liverpool), and regional centres outside Sydney (e.g. Newcastle, Wollongong, Goulburn), in preference to the current focus on the CBD.
- While there is resistance to medium/high density housing development and urban consolidation in people's "backyards", when people understand the nature of the long-term trade-offs, there is support for higher densities rather than continued low-density fringe development. However urban consolidation needs to be better planned, with supporting policies such as provision of improved public transport and protection of open space.
- There is broad public interest and support for new transport technologies; specifically there was interest in 'green' cars, intelligent public transport, smart highways and personal rapid transit. While there was strong public support for government funding of public transport, there was an expectation that the research and development of new technologies would be funded mainly by private investment, with some government funding.

**Decision-Makers**

- On many issues, decision-makers had similar views to those of the public, and appeared to have a good understanding of public views and attitudes.
- However the decision-makers under-estimate the level of public support for improving Sydney's public transport, and their willingness for this to be funded if necessary at the expense of the roads budget. They also under-estimate the extent to which the public are prepared to see traffic demand management solutions rather than building more roads.
- Decision-makers also appear to put more emphasis on relying on existing transport solutions compared to the public, who are significantly more supportive of actively developing new transport technologies.

**S U M M A R Y**

The Research Report from the Community Values project is essential reading for anyone interested or involved in understanding community values, attitudes, expectations and responses in relation to the development of a more sustainable future for Sydney and its transport systems.

**Want to Know More?**

The complete Community Values Research Report is available from The Warren Centre for \$99 (GST included). Please complete the form on the back of this document and fax it to The Warren Centre at +61 2 9351 2012.

The first report of the project, *The State of Play*, is also available. This consists of a set of Technical Papers prepared by thirty-four leading professionals in transport, land use, the environment and infrastructure developments providing a strategic assessment of transport in Sydney at the turn of the century. This is available in hard copy or CD Rom.

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We would like to acknowledge the assistance of over 1300 residents of Sydney, as well as the senior decision-makers, who gave so freely of their time and made this study possible.

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