

A bus stop outside your door: On demand transport is here

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Sydney commuters are set for even more choice, with the launch of the first ever series of On Demand public transport trials that bring the bus to you.

Minister for Transport and Infrastructure Andrew Constance said the trials were a first for NSW, and would transform the daily commute for people across Sydney.

“We have on demand movies, on demand food, and finally – NSW will have on demand transport,” Mr Constance said.

Eight pilots of On Demand Transport services in the North West, South West, West, Eastern Suburbs, Northern Beaches, Sutherland Shire and Central Coast will start from October and allow customers to book transport from or near their home to a local transport hub or other centres including local hospitals.

“This trial is just the start of our transport future in NSW. Imagine not having to check a timetable because you know your service will be there when and where you need it,” Mr Constance said.

Key employment region Macquarie Park is part of the first tranche of On Demand pilots, with a service to transport workers living within 15 kilometres of the precinct starting in early 2018, with fares starting at \$2.60. This service will be run by Keolis Downer and use a fleet of eight mini vans, six mini buses and one wheelchair accessible vehicle during weekday peaks and shoulders.

Ryde MP Victor Dominello said that the service would boost capacity for people living in the region ahead of the start of Sydney Metro Northwest in 2019.

“This will encourage more people out of their cars and onto public transport, and will bring extra services to this rapidly growing employment precinct,” Mr Dominello said.

Each trial is unique and will have its own pricing scheme ranging from \$2.60 to \$5.60 for a standard trip. Customers will be able to book online, by phone or

via an app.

The other areas included in the first roll out of on demand trials will be:

Bankstown: An on demand bus service for visitors, patients and employees of Bankstown Hospital that operates 18 hours a day. Starts in October. Standard fare of \$4. (Punchbowl Bus Company, 1 bus)

Edmondson Park: A service to pick customers up from home or nearby location and drop them at the train station. Starts in early 2018. Standard fare of \$3.10. (Interline, 2 mini buses)

Northern Beaches: A service that connects customers from Palm Beach to North Narrabeen to bus stops on the Northern Beaches B-Line. Starts late 2017. Standard fare of \$3.10. (Keolis Downer, 8 vehicles)

Sutherland Shire: A service to pick customers up from home or a nearby location in Jannali West, Sylvania, Caringbah and Gymea and take them to transport hubs or local shops. Starts November. Standard fare of \$2.60. (Transdev, 5 mini buses)

Manly and Eastern Suburbs: A service to pick customers up at home or nearby location and take them to Edgecliff and Bondi Junction stations, ferries at Manly or Rose Bay wharves. Starts November. Standard fare of \$3.10. (Transdev, 6 mini buses)

Wetherill Park and Greystanes: A service to connect employment precincts to T-Way interchanges. Starts late 2017. Standard fare of \$3.10. (Indi-Link by Transit Systems, 5 mini buses)

Central Coast: A service to take customers to Woy Woy station from locations on the Woy Woy peninsula. Starts early 2018. Fares start at \$3.10. (Community Transport Central Coast, 5 mini buses)

Transport for NSW will use data from the trials to plan future public transport improvements across all areas of Sydney.

All pilots in this trial will provide a standalone service that will not affect any existing local bus services.