



# The Hon Barry O'Farrell MP

## Premier of NSW

### Minister for Western Sydney

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## MEDIA RELEASE

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Wednesday 21 September 2011

### **NSW GOVT DELIVERING FOR COMMUTERS: RESTORING AND IMPROVING SYDNEY FERRY SERVICES**

Sydney ferry passengers will have more travel options to choose from when the NSW Liberals & Nationals Government restores 140 weekly services slashed by the former Labor Government, NSW Premier Barry O'Farrell and Minister for Transport Gladys Berejiklian announced today.

The NSW Government is also adding an extra 25 weekly services along the Parramatta River ensuring more frequent ferries for commuters and day-trippers.

These changes will deliver a total of 165 more services a week for ferry passengers.

Mr O'Farrell said the changes, to start next month, are a win for public transport customers who suffered through Labor's broken transport promises, budget blowouts and service cuts.

"Labor slashed ferries services and we are proud to be bringing them back.

"The NSW Liberals & Nationals committed to restore services abolished by the previous Labor government and on October 24 that promise will be delivered," Mr O'Farrell said.

"The tide has turned on Labor's era of service cuts. We said this Government would deliver better frontline services – and here's more evidence of its delivery," he said.

Ms Berejiklian said the new ferry timetable was a great result for everyone who travelled on the Harbour or along the Parramatta River.

"Restoring service frequencies cut under Labor is a key element of the Government's 'Fixing Sydney Ferries' program," Ms Berejiklian said.

"We have listened to the community's concerns and that is why we are restoring services that have been lost from the North Shore, adding new services in the Inner West, and have better matched other services across the network.

"The future for Sydney Ferries is very bright, with more services and the franchising process well underway."

Cabarita Wharf, the busiest and fastest growing stop along the Parramatta River, will receive four new services as a result of the changes.

Drummoyne MP John Sidoti welcomed the new services.

“This is a great boost for ferry commuters in Drummoyne, and shows the NSW Government is getting on with the job of delivering better public transport,” he said.

The new, improved ferry timetable means:

- Re-introducing 30 minute daytime off-peak frequencies for Mosman and Neutral Bay on weekdays;
- A new weekday service from Rydalmere to Darling Harbour at 7.25am during the morning peak period;
- A new service from Meadowbank to Circular Quay at 5.38pm to come down the river on weekdays to fill a two-hour gap in services;
- A new service from Circular Quay to Meadowbank via Cabarita at 5.03pm weekdays;
- A new service departing Circular Quay to Sydney Olympic Park at 7.05pm during weekdays to complement the existing services at 6.35pm and 7.35pm; and
- Three additional late evening services from Cockatoo Island to Circular Quay, providing services at 8.56pm, 10.06pm and 11.06pm to allow customers to enjoy island’s amenities beyond the current return ferry time 7.05pm.

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