

**PREMIER UNVEILS FREE BUSES TO SHUTTLE PEOPLE AROUND THE CBD**

3 December 2008

Premier Nathan Rees announced that a new free shuttle bus will start at midday today in Sydney's CBD.

Mr Rees said the free CBD Shuttle would loop around the city to pick up office workers, shoppers and tourists and take them to various destinations in the CBD.

"I expect the service will be particularly popular during the busy Christmas period," Mr Rees said.

"The CBD Shuttle will make it easier for people to get from one end of the city to the other and everywhere in between.

"Sometimes it can be difficult to know exactly which bus to catch if you're only going a few blocks in the city.

"The CBD Shuttle makes it simple – it's free, it has high visibility green paintwork, and it runs around a loop of the city in both directions.

"Furthermore, passengers on the shuttle won't need tickets, they can just hop on and off at any regular bus stop along the route."

Transport Minister David Campbell joined Premier Rees for the announcement, saying the CBD Shuttle would operate under the easy to remember 555 route number.

"The Shuttle will run in both directions between Circular Quay and Central Railway Station, along George and Elizabeth streets," Mr Campbell said.

"The service will operate at a 10-minute frequency between 9.30am and 3.30pm on Monday to Friday, finishing at 9pm on Thursday evenings.

"Weekend services will also run between 9.30am and 6pm."

Mr Rees said people could use the service to shuttle into the city, around town, down the road, out for a coffee, to the shops, or to their next meeting.

"If you're not already a regular bus passenger, then using this wheelchair accessible and air conditioned service is the best way to give it a go," he said.

"For more information on the CBD Shuttle or to plan your whole trip by public transport call 131 500 or visit www.131500.info."

Minister for Transport and the Illawarra David Campbell also announced a free shuttle bus service would be introduced for the Wollongong CBD.

“The Wollongong service will be up and running early next year, linking the CBD, Foreshore precinct, University of Wollongong, TAFE and innovation campus,” he said.

