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Let states drive

Jacob Saulwick makes a good point ("Canberra should at least let

states try to fail on transport and cities", May 25) about the confusing roles of federal and state governments in the planning of cities. Sydney's future rail network is a perfect example where Canberra is only concerned with the connection to the Western Sydney Airport while the NSW government must develop a holistic metro rail network across metropolitan Sydney that underpins where growth will occur. State governments control the major issues related to cities including public transport, roads, education, health and the planning system. Certainly the federal government must contribute funding, which comes from the taxation of the state's population, but the state government should take the dominant role.

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