

Public Works Committee

Inquiry into the Impact of the Western Harbour Tunnel and Beaches Link

Hearing 17 September 2021

Supplementary questions

Questions for Northern Beaches Secondary College Balgowlah Boys Parents & Citizens Association

Our answers are in blue below

1. **Does the project increase traffic on the northern beaches? If so, by how much?**
 - a. **Are northern beaches residents aware that the traffic will be increasing?**
 - b. **Has there been any information available on this?**

Outside our scope/role as a volunteer parent organisation for Northern Beaches Secondary College Balgowlah Boys Campus

2. **Are there any swimming areas you are concerned about as a result of the project?**

Outside our scope/role as a volunteer parent organisation for Northern Beaches Secondary College Balgowlah Boys Campus

3. **What are the costs per Northern Beaches resident for the project?**

Outside our scope/role as a volunteer parent organisation for Northern Beaches Secondary College Balgowlah Boys Campus

4. **What are the projected numbers of Northern Beaches residents who will be using the tunnel?**

Outside our scope/role as a volunteer parent organisation for Northern Beaches Secondary College Balgowlah Boys Campus

5. **If the project was adjusted for working from home behaviour changes following COVID-19, how do you believe this would impact the usage of the tunnel?**

Outside our scope/role as a volunteer parent organisation for Northern Beaches Secondary College Balgowlah Boys Campus

6. **Where do you see the major environmental impacts of the project for the Northern Beaches?**

The environmental impacts of the project on Balgowlah Boys Campus, which is directly across Sydney Road from the proposed Balgowlah Golf Course Construction Support Site (BL10) and access road, are outlined in our submission to the Inquiry.

These impacts on the school include noise, vibration, increased traffic, disruption, air pollution, loss of access to Balgowlah Oval, and removal of vegetation on school grounds.

7. If you included all the Northern Beaches schools impacted by the project, what do you believe would be the numbers of residents/students impacted?

We can speak only for students of Balgowlah Boys Campus. Our submission to the Inquiry stated:

‘As the tunnel construction period is estimated at 6 years, this submission is also on behalf of the students at Balgowlah Boys Campus between 2023 and 2028. Assuming that 200 boys (below current intakes) enter Year 7 each year between 2023 and 2028, and together with existing students, at least 2,200 boys will be subjected to the impacts of construction at some time between 2023 and 2028. The Class of 2028 will be worst affected, being exposed to six years of impacts if the Western Harbour Tunnel and Beaches Link proceeds.’

8. How were the schools in the tunnel impacted areas consulted about changes to stack locations and truck movements prior to the release of the EIS?

We can speak only for Balgowlah Boys Campus. In answer to this question Paul Sheather, Principal, advises:

‘No consultation to the school community at all. All communication was through the EID.’

9. What sort of mitigation costs do you believe should be included in the costings for the project?

A comprehensive list of mitigation measures is outlined in our submission to the EIS and to the Inquiry. These mitigation measures should be included in the costings for the project.