

INQUIRY INTO CROSS CITY TUNNEL

Organisation:

Name: Mr Sam Harding

Telephone:

Date Received: 16/01/2006

Theme:

Summary

Submission to Cross City Tunnel lodged by Sam Harding

Dear Sirs,

I live in Kings Cross Rd and work in the Sydney CBD, in Pitt St. The CCT starts before the building I live in and exits past my workplace - so I have rarely used it. I don't therefore have any real interest in the CCT itself, except that there have been a whole lot of changes to roads around Kings Cross all of which make my life a lot more difficult.

+ It is now a lot harder to get across the harbour because the right turns from Williams St to the Harbour tunnel are gone and I have to detour right round through Potts Point and Woolloomooloo to get to the tunnel. As the traffic has already bypassed the CCT when it gets to Williams St I can't see any point in this.

+ The closing of Bourke St from Williams St has made it a lot more difficult to simply move around the local area because it has isolated both Darlinghurst in the west and Woolloomooloo in the north. This has made parts of Darlinghurst hard to access and made some of the streets into 'ghost' streets. I was mugged walking down Liverpool St in November because it is so quiet and deserted now. The police told me that muggings have increased dramatically since Bourke St has been closed. It would make moving around the Darlinghurst/City East area a lot easier and safer if Bourke St was re-opened.

+ The actual Kings Cross junction is now a complete shambles. Craigend St has a lot more traffic yet at the traffic lights into the Kings Cross junction it has actually been narrowed with one lane removed, the addition of a cycle lane and additional parking on the right-hand side as you drive towards the CBD. This has made it very hard for any more than two cars to get through to Darlinghurst or Kings Cross Roads at each light change. There has also been a change in Darlinghurst Rd entering the Kings Cross junction; the left hand lane must now turn left into Williams St. This is stupid as most of the traffic wants to go either straight ahead into Darlinghurst Rd or right into Kings Cross Rd. The net effect is that the majority of the traffic is squeezed into one lane. This is causing a lot of traffic disruption.

+ Williams St has been narrowed down to two lanes each way. This has made driving to the CBD much more difficult and a lot longer. I walk to work. The footpaths have been made a lot wider but I can't see why. Williams St is always in the shade and it is cold and windy. I think that the Council is dreaming if they think that people are going to want to sit there and have coffee.

I don't have any real issue with the CCT as I can't really use it because I live inside it's boundaries but the changes to the roads in our area caused by the CCT have made it a lot more difficult to move around and to live here.

Sam Harding