

INQUIRY INTO CROSS CITY TUNNEL

Organisation:

Name: Ms Lucy Robertson

Telephone:

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Theme:

Summary

Submission to Cross City Tunnel lodged by Lucy Robertson

With less than three minutes to go until the deadline for these submissions, I have only just been made aware of the fact an inquiry is being held at all - I can guarantee that my view (following) is also held by countless others who are unable to submit their views to this inquiry because, like me, they simply did not know it was happening. I suggest the low profile of the inquiry is an attempt to limit the negative feedback about the CCT, which further adds to my dissatisfaction about the whole issue.

That aside, I am writing to express my anger and frustration about Sydney's CCT project, as well as the subsequent road closures we have seen across the city since the CCT opened.

Firstly, like many other Sydneysiders, I feel the cost of the toll on the CCT is excessive. Charging motorists four dollars to travel EACH WAY across their own city is appalling and embarrassing. I live in the eastern suburbs and work in Pyrmont, so my route would be considerably shortened if I were to use the CCT, however at \$8 per day, I believe the toll is far from worth it. Luckily, I don't need to use any other tolls on my trip across town, but I can only imagine what other motorists who do are paying simply to travel from one side of the city to the other. A one-way toll like that on the Harbour Bridge and Harbour Tunnel would be much more cost-effective and offer a much fairer alternative to motorists. I also believe that reducing the cost of the toll to two dollars or \$2.50 would also result in significantly increased use. At the moment, I refuse to use the CCT because the cost of the toll vastly outweighs any benefit it has to me. I know of many others who also hold this view.

Secondly, I feel that the road closures, especially those on William Street, have no purpose but to force motorists into the tunnel. This is blatantly undemocratic and an insult to taxpayers, who have already funded much of the cost of building the tunnel (or at least other public roads) in the first place. Further, William Street is now practically un-negotiable because of the excessive road closures and lane reductions, meaning motorists who do not want to use the CCT have to use the vastly inadequate Oxford Street to get across the city.

When the CCT project was first announced, it was advertised as an ALTERNATIVE for motorists wanting to get across the city faster, however it feels like it has become nothing more than a fundraising exercise that actually LIMITS motorists' choice.

I urge you to reduce the cost of the CCT and put an end to the countless unnecessary road closures across the rest of the city, or face an increasingly frustrated and disillusioned group of motorists in Sydney.