

**Submission
No 11**

INQUIRY INTO IMPACT OF THE CBD AND SOUTH EAST LIGHT RAIL PROJECT

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The huge impacts to us from living on the light rail route are as follows: - The removal of 140+ car parking spaces from our street means many tradespeople advise they will no longer service us as they can't find parking. - We can no longer receive deliveries to the front of our house. They must park several streets over as there is no parking and take goods through the garage. However, as our garage is higher than the house, 4 steps through a gate that's 90cm wide, it means many items must be brought all the way around the street to the front of the house. Our elderly relatives in walking frames can no longer be dropped off to the front of the house and must be dropped around the back street sometimes 300m away and walk to the front also as they can't make it down the garage steps. - We now must lap the area for up to 30 minutes trying to find our own parking, and often we must park up to 500m away, where as we used to be able to park within 100m prior to the light rail. Trying to find parking for visitors is near impossible. They often must park several suburbs away and catch a taxi back to our house in order to park their car. - Our street was a small suburban street that rarely had cars on it after 10PM. We will now be forced to have 2 light rail vehicles travelling from 5am to 1am, all day every day and our house will have a train travelling past our front door every 2 minutes in peak hour. - We now have rat-runs created in the back lane (Gladstone Street, Surry Hills) as people can't drive west bound on Devonshire street and so the volume of noise out the back of our house has become quite prolific. We can no longer sleep with our windows open due to the constant noise and movement of vehicles, trucks, and trucks that deliver to the pubs. These trucks previously used Devonshire street for their deliveries and would park on Devonshire Street as this is where most of the pubs cellars are located on or closest to. They now use the small side streets, including our back lane, to make deliveries. The trucks now sit and idle out the back street or simply park across our driveway as they can't find parking near the pubs or restaurants. This was never the case prior to the light rail. - We used to have a lovely tree lined street with 7 large old 20m+ high trees. Now the street is quite barren and devoid of character. It's seems a charred concrete jungle now. - At least 10 business have gone bankrupt on Devonshire Street. Small businesses we use to support and cafes and restaurants that won't ever return as there is no longer parking for people who want to come and dine here. Our street is a barren landscape with many businesses gone bankrupt. - Our row of 14 terraces now has several eye sores that are a direct result of the light rail project: (1). Every 3rd house on Devonshire Street now has a green electricity box on the street (photos attached), closest to the properties, that allow people to sit on them at night and talk. This means watching TV in our lounge rooms and trying to sleep at night in the front rooms becomes almost impossible. Several visually impaired people have fallen over them, and days when people walk up to the stadiums, people must weave in and out of these eye sores; many people run in to them. If you get enough people and a few with wheelchairs or prams you must swerve around the boxes as they cause huge bottlenecks; this is just ridiculous. Poorly planned. (2). One of the terraces didn't question the ALTRAC Consortium about putting electricity wiring underground, and so now has a 3m pole in their front yard (photo attached). This is quite ridiculous that it would have been allowed in a heritage area and simply shows you the lack of respect shown to the people living on the light rail route. We have been treated with disdain since the light rail was announced.