

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

Name: Mr Tim Ritchie

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To whom it may concern: Businesses have shut in my neighbourhood. Along Devonshire St as well as Crown St and other local streets. No planning to encourage them to stay, no compensation to keep them as part of our Surry Hills village. The few illuminated signs are too few, and obviously too late. Parking has become even more of a nightmare. I do not have off-street parking, and with several roads closed to parking, additional building works to the school and local residences getting itinerant parking areas for builders, it's not just a matter of having to park further away from my home, sometimes there is no parking. And the parking rangers have not given any leniency. Rather, they seem to have stepped up patrols and been stricter with interpretations. For example, the neighbouring property to mine is a newly built child day care. They did not receive a DA approval to build a driveway, but they built one anyway. They used it to load in building materials, then when construction was finished, they put posts into the concrete and built a solid gate for security. This voided use of the driveway. I parked there often as there are so few spaces. After 2 years of parking there, I got a fine a couple of weeks ago more than \$260. I sort leniency – none was given. This added to tickets for parking in a temporary construction zone that wasn't there when we parked there and other fines. All this inconvenience, and we don't even get a stop for the school and day care centre at Wimbo park (and we have lost the use of the park forever with no gain). There are more inconveniences like lack of intelligible info on change street traffic condition and pedestrian access and more. My local park (Moore Park) has been a construction site for years, and there's no end to the mounds of dirt in site, yet very little work seems to be happening and no info on when we will get it back. Overall this construction has been of no benefit to locals, and even on completion, without a local stop, the whole thing will have made my area a lesser place to live.