

**Submission
No 77**

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

Name: Ms Cat Wright

Date Received: 9 July 2018

My concerns follow:

This work on the light-rail has been going on so long and impacts me directly as I live exactly on the corner of Avoca Street and Cuthill Street. High Cross Park has been ruined. Trees are gone. The park barely exists now. Car parking on the park side of the road no longer exists due to barriers. I have had to deal with overnight works for well over a year. This means that lights stream directly into my unit and into my bedroom, making it like daylight during the sleeping hours. Sometimes the work shakes the building. At times I have workmen literally working within metres from my window and my bed. For some reason, ever since this work began, my nearest bus stop has been removed - both to and from the area. I do not have a car so this impacts me - and others whom I speak to. My neighbour has a disability where access to close public transport is very important - walking being the issue. She now struggles every morning and afternoon getting to and from work due to this loss of our closest bus stop.

My housemates have cars and have to share the off-street parking and when this OSP is full they must park elsewhere. Next to the park was once an option, but no longer.

To make things worse, one weekend work took place right outside our unit's front door access. After that weekend, upon NOT CLOSE inspection, it was CLEARLY evident that SEVERE damage had been caused to the property. This property is of the art deco period so damage is unacceptable. Since this happened approximately 6 weeks ago the damage has not been fixed and has deteriorated. The damage took place to the frontage of the property and to part of the art deco features.

If Sydney wanted a light-rail (in other words, a tram network) then why remove it in the first place? If it didn't work in the past, what makes those in charge of building our infrastructure believe that this entire trauma to the city and in particular Randwick in bringing back a defunct system is going to work now?

On top of all this, chaos is considered normal now in Randwick. High Street is perpetually in a state of road works. Pedestrian traffic is always being diverted, making getting around a longer process. Bus routes have been re-routed.

The loss of the trees from the park opposite my windows and the significant decrease in size of High Cross Park - part of one of the reasons I chose to rent where I do, to enjoy the park provided by the local council - has had a significant negative impact upon the aesthetics of the area.

So far nothing good has come from these light-rail works. I am happy - WAS happy - with our local bus system that takes us directly to all the convenient railway stations, and so I see no need for a light-rail. If having a light-rail is going to cause a loss in our regular bus services then I'd rather we did without a light-rail. All we need are more buses, more regular buses and more buses to different places.

Thank you for considering my Submission.

Yours sincerely,

Cat Wright

Avoca Street

Randwick 2031