

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

Name: Name suppressed

Date Received: 8 July 2018

Partially
Confidential

MY PERSONAL DETAILS ARE CONFIDENTIAL Thank you for the opportunity to make a Submission to the Inquiry. In particular, I am concerned about the impact on local business and communities as a result of the project. My specific concerns follow: Construction of the light rail has caused significant restrictions in access to southern crown street and Devonshire street resulting in many businesses in the area south of Devonshire closing due to lack of patronage. I have not seen any convincing modelling that shows any benefit to the residents of Surry Hills as a result of this destructive project. There is a single stop, that is almost at Central station with estimates that trams will be full before they reach Surry Hills. Buses to the city in our suburb are already mostly full in the morning peak hour and there will be significantly reduced transport to the city if these buses are removed. Traffic is already bad due to the construction and can only get worse once you have 8 carriage trams crossing level intersections with traffic every 4 min in each direction. How can you possibly have traffic flow across South Dowling street that won't be so bad it will force cars on to local roads? How will pedestrians get up Crown Street, or Bourke, or Riley with these same trams thundering past? Travel times by tram are slower than current bus times, there are no options for express services, the capacity is too small and the size too large. It is an absolute disgrace to refer to an 8 carriage tram as "light rail". By any definition, it is really heavy rail and should be on dedicated lines away from people, cars and bikes. Why not just admit this is as poorly thought out as the monorail? Leave the mess you have made in the CBD, and stop the rest of the construction and return the roads to buses which are more flexible, faster, easier to use and better able to cope with issues than the light rail. Thank you for considering my Submission.