

Submission
No 134

**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.

My main concern regarding the project is the impact it has had on local communities along with the blatant disregard for the people impacted.

My specific concerns follow:

Along Anzac parade, our heritage trees, some that had been standing for up to 170 years were destroyed for the project. The community were not aware that this would happen as the original design was to the light rail to be on the other side of the road. At the time we were living Randwick and Maroubra which is where I grew up and the changes to traffic meant the trip into the city took three times longer and became an eyesore. Destroying these trees was a devastating blow as I had enjoyed walking along this road many times and had even sat under the shade of these magnificent trees on many occasions. Taking away one of the most beautiful stretches of road was a major factor in our family leaving Sydney and moving to Wollongong. Locals who had stood by while the trees were destroyed stated that the trees were not properly removed of wildlife and stated that they witnessed possums and birds go into the woodchipper. Wires also reported that they were denied access to the trees b

efore they were felled.

The blatant disregard for locals was very saddening and disappointing. Many locals including myself and some friends attended protests, wrote letters to the minister and called the local office as well as took to Facebook to share our concerns. We were not listened to. Protests continued for months and months along Anzac parade and the phones we were told were inundated with phone calls. We were ignored and it went ahead incredibly quickly regardless. Not even the dicoverry of Aboriginal artefacts could halt the destruction.

Trying to get to and from work as well as to and from UNSW became a nightmare due to traffic conditions. Our iconic 9 ways roundabout is also gone and an already painfully congested traffic area has become even worse. When I return to Sydney now I know to avoid all areas impacted by the light rail as the traffic is impossible

I understand many businesses were also impacted and have read articles to the same affect however will not comment further as others better informed will talk to this point.

Thank you for considering my Submission.

Yours sincerely,

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