

**Submission  
No 69**

## **INQUIRY INTO IMPACT OF THE WESTCONNEX PROJECT**

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I have lived in the inner city now for over 35 years. I have witnessed the deterioration in public services over that time, in particular, the public transport system. In response, I believe that people resort to driving their own vehicles thereby congesting the streets and polluting the environment. The suburbs are no longer a place for people and children. Parents fear children being hit by cars that park over footpaths and double park in the streets due to the lack of available parking. Larger vehicles (suvs etc), add to the danger. This has resulted in a lack of community as we know it and a deterioration of social cohesion. The construction of more roads and tollways will only exacerbate this situation. The construction of West Connex typifies this principle. Houses, including those that reflected the heritage value of the suburb are being bulldozed and long term residents displaced. This in itself is a disgrace. Communities will continue to disintegrate and the increased resultant pollution will adversely affect the health of those within a wide radius of this motorway. I am angry concerning the lack of transparency of the West Connex project and the associated lack of accountability. I am fed up with the decisions 'made on the run.' The Government's knee jerk reaction to major community concerns amounts to nothing but political expediency and populism. I have no confidence whatsoever in the current State Government. My view has been informed in the witnessing of this outrage being played out before my eyes. I urge those who have power to intervene in the construction of West Connex to do so.