

**INQUIRY INTO IMPACT OF THE WESTCONNEX  
PROJECT**

**Name:** Name suppressed

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Partially  
Confidential

WestConnex has impacted my family. The impact of the development to Euston road mean that we have to move house. We leave behind close friends and neighbours. Our asthmatic child leaves his best friend next-door and his daycare, along with the parks and open spaces being destroyed by WestConnex. Moving house is stressful and extremely expensive. The stamp duty wipes out years of savings. But if your kid has asthma and you don't want to live near a 7-lane highway then you just do it. You bin your applications to local schools, deposits to child-care centres and you just move somewhere you hope is safe from Westconnex. You hope that the trees of whatever park you live near don't get chopped down. You hope that the park isn't adjacent to a spaghetti junction monstrosity. You hope there is some public transport and that it will improve. The personal impact on me is multiplied across many families. We were lucky in that we were able to wipe-out our savings and move. Others are trapped. The local traffic impact from Westconnex on our area (Alexandria) will be extreme. Those who need to use a car to drop kids off at school or drive older relatives will be trapped in the bottleneck that is being built. Already Euston road grinds to a halt where it hits Botany Rd- no amount of widening will remove this bottleneck - but we will add thousands of vehicles to the traffic jam created just 2m from the homes of those who live on Euston rd. The disruption inherent in major infrastructure is always going to upset some people. But this is exacerbated when there is insufficient strategic justification for the development. Sydney is - increasingly - a high-density city. High density living requires high-density transport. This is before we even consider the environmental impacts of increasing car use. Overall we have a hugely expensive project that massively impacts many families in terms of health and cost. The project does not address the woeful public transport in the inner west and instead will compound the existing traffic issue. The token public consultations felt like lip service. The whole approach is depressingly short-sighted as best and at worst it is a cynical cash-in for construction companies. The new traffic jams created will be excuses for further development. The inner-west communities will be destroyed and dispersed so we can make Sydney look like LA.