

**Submission
No 93**

INQUIRY INTO IMPACT OF THE WESTCONNEX PROJECT

Name: Mr Roger Juchau

Date Received: 6 August 2018

Submission Impacts of West Connex

Residents of Balmain/Rozelle and the inner west have long endured the traffic chaos of Victoria Rd, Parramatta Rd and the West Link and the associated pollution and noise together with the road dangers of the "rat runners".

Past governments have ignored critical road and rail infrastructure to accommodate passenger and transport traffic in our region. They have even abandoned, at great cost, the rail link to Rozelle.

The current WestConnex, Gateway, rail projects and proposals are long overdue and are a justifiable use of government resources to bring transport infrastructure for our region into the 21st century. The proposed rail metro from Sydney to Parramatta is to be applauded.

The benefits flowing to business, environment, communities, health and transport will be felt throughout our region and beyond.

The costs and benefits are difficult to quantify but the projects are indispensable if Sydney is not to degenerate into Manila/Djakarta transport hell hole.

Large projects always bring challenges and unforeseen problems. They are surmounted and the efflux of time erases the usual array of objections which most often are tainted by political and selfish agendas.

All who use the road or rail must expect to incur a charge. Worthy of investigation is to examine an integrated congestion/destination/location road charge to replace road tolls.

A long view is that the full completion of West Connex, Sydney Gateway and Metro rail lines are critical if Sydney is to become a metropolis icon by the middle of this century.

Political objectors to these developments are opportunistic and self-serving. Perhaps they could become ghost riders on the Parramatta Epping rail line and the Sydney-Rozelle metro.

1st August 2018