

**Submission  
No 212**

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

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**Date Received:** 30 August 2018

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# Impact of the WestConnex project

As owners of a residence in Lilyfield, my wife and I urge you to advise the Minister for Planning to halt and abandon Stage 3 of WestConnex.

## What is planned?

Stage 3 will white-ant Lilyfield & Rozelle with a spaghetti junction of tunnels, stacked three layers deep - akin to those LA flyovers you may have seen aerial shots of - but underneath our house.

## What will happen and who will pay?

The risk of subsidence due to loss of groundwater is significant and indications are that any claim, when the cracks appear, will be rejected outright as having nothing to do with the construction. No legislated fund will have been established to accommodate these claims. The State Government will declare 'Nothing to do with us' as it coldly passes the buck to the writhe of contractors, all of whom point to one another in the confident expectation that, through mental and financial exhaustion, we will buckle like the house foundations themselves and end up going into debt for the tens or hundreds of thousands required for the (un)necessary remedial work.

## We have better things to do with our lives and money.

In addition to the complexity of this planned undertaking, evidenced by the dearth of Australian engineering corporations willing to tender for it, for the community living & working here, we are to have foisted upon us construction noise throughout the night, truck congestion, pollution from 39 metre unfiltered exhaust stacks and our houses & apartments foundations cracking & weakened. Years of it.

## And what is it all for?

Frequently travelling south out of Sydney, we used to go via the cross-city-tunnel-Eastern Distributor-M5 route. Lured by the promise of a clear run with no lights, we'd soon find ourselves crawling along inside tunnels, time and time again. Finally, we broke the spell and declared 'NO more'. We now head out on Canterbury Road - back to a route we did 25 years ago! It generally moves along as fast and when traffic does slow, at least there's a view. Better yet, it's free.

## WestConnex is another clogged 'hole-in-the-ground' waiting to happen, funnelling gridlock into the city centre.

Our policy-makers are letting the citizens of Sydney down by building roadways that will soon reach capacity, instead of directing taxpayer funds toward mass-transit solutions.

## These are the actions that destroy a community, not build a city.

Yours sincerely,  
Craig Kirchner

30 August 2018