

**Submission
No 240**

INQUIRY INTO IMPACT OF THE WESTCONNEX PROJECT

Name: Miss Elizabeth Brown

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Dear Committee,

As a long time resident of Newtown I would like to advise you of the issues I have had to deal with regarding WestConnex.

It started when they were excavating the site at St Peters, even though we are many streets away, we could still smell the horrible stench, especially when the wind blew a certain way. We would have to close up the house to try and avoid it. Complaints to the EPA seemed to fall on deaf ears, we were ignored.

Then there is the noise, even though we are blocks away we can still hear the heavy machinery, especially during the night. I pity those residents who are beside the worksite.

We had drilling by WestConnex take place in the School grounds opposite us and what an incompetent worksite that was. I was assured, after voicing my concerns, that there would be no trucks or machinery taking up space in the surrounding streets. The first morning of work at that site, I had photos of numerous vehicles parked in no stopping zones & parked on the footpath. I questioned the liquid that was running off into the school oval area and although they couldn't tell me what the liquid was or contained, I didn't need to be concerned. The fact the site they were drilling on use to be an old building with asbestos was concerning. When phoning the enquiry line (Sydney Motorway Corporation) I had to provide my address, they would not allow me to speak to anyone if they did not have my address, reluctantly I gave it to them. Imagine my disgust when two people from the worksite showed up on my doorstep. I saw it as an intimidation tactic, they were given my address from the complaint I made, to me, that was a breach of privacy. On another occasion work continued on a Saturday (I was assured this wouldn't happen) and continued for many hours past the designated finishing time. Complaints to the hotline made no difference, they were a law unto themselves.

I use to love visiting Sydney Park and the surrounding areas in St Peters, but WestConnex has destroyed it. The removal of all the mature trees is devastating. In a climate that experiences 40+ degrees in summer, having those trees helped reduce the on street temperature, now it will only be hotter. The local wildlife has suffered immensely as well, Sydney Park was a haven for Tawny Frogmouth but we haven't seen one for a long while now. All of this has been stolen from us by WestConnex. It has been a disaster from the start. An area with so much potential has been guttered.

Regards
Elizabeth Brown