

**Submission  
No 273**

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

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Public Accountability Committee  
Inquiry into the Impact of the West Connex project  
Parliament House  
Macquarie Street  
Sydney NSW 2000

The Chair

I would like to make a submission into the Inquiry into the Impact of the West Connex project.

I am a resident of the Inner West Council area and am opposed to the construction of the infrastructure known as WestConnex. I have serious concerns about the project in the following areas:

The negative impact on the quality of life of the Inner West suburbs in the path of West Connex. The destruction of housing and communities in the Haberfield and St Peters communities is shocking.

The proposed 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> stages will have similar negative impacts on the suburbs of Leichhardt and Rozelle.

The evidence of the benefit of these infrastructure projects has not adequately been demonstrated to local communities. The NSW Government has dismissed the ongoing serious opposition to this project in all its phases and has not demonstrated true consultation with the community.

The serious concerns are about the destruction of community, the environmental impacts (pollution), the increasing traffic on residential streets, the negative impacts of long term construction sites in residential areas.

The NSW Government's governance of this major project has been woeful. Decisions made before consultation periods have finalized or environmental impacts considered, abrupt changes in major decisions about construction sites and sign off on tenders that clearly demonstrate a lack of proper consideration – all happening in a rush before the next election.

The communities of the Inner West have been shabbily treated, no real benefit of this project can be demonstrated, it is an extremely expensive project (at the same time children are attending Inner West Schools in demountables) and lack governance is in abundance.

I urge the Committee to force the NSW Government to end its support for the West Connex project and to invest in the services that the communities of NSW put as a priority: public transport, health and education.

Yours sincerely

Deborah Sharp