

**Submission
No 281**

**INQUIRY INTO IMPACT OF THE WESTCONNEX
PROJECT**

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St Peters NSW a small, vibrant community, close to SYDNEY CBD that has completely changed as a result of the West Connex project. The project has affected: 1. the air quality which has increased the incidence of respiratory illness in my home and this probably not helped by the significant tree removal. 2. the sound quality has affected sleep patterns and amount of sleep which research shows is also not good for health and 3. the excavating, building, road closures and diversions have made it difficult to walk safely especially for the young children going to school, not to mention the elderly who have lived in this area since birth. Further this has also had a significant impact on parking, as a person with two knee replacements this has made things more complicated as it is difficult to find parking close by.

Perhaps the thing I find hardest about West Connex in our area is understanding the purpose and value of this project. In a world where alternatives to cars & trucks are advocated for and cities are designed with the inhabitants of an area in mind West Connex just doesn't seem to make sense. To not seem to be truly heard adds further frustration and concern about the impact of this project. This project is destroying the community I have lived in for nearly 20 years and the thought of considering leaving is stressful. The value of my investment here has been slashed and as a 60 year old, single woman the choices I have of where and how to live are increasingly limited. When I should start to look at the next phase of my life I don't see much to look forward to - I love where and how I live in this small and wonderful extended family type community and now I'm not sure what it will become but sadly and even worse I don't think the proposed value of West Connex will either.