

**Submission  
No 284**

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

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Westconnex has destroyed a local community near me, where my friends and family members live at St Peters. They have endured monstrous disruption to their lives and horrible negative impact to their amenity. Many of them have had to pack their bags and leave the area because their homes were acquired, or because they just could no longer bear to live there under the present conditions. They have been subjected to constant noise both day and night, dust and smells, traffic and parking and road closures, and complete lack of consideration by Westconnex workers. Their very real issues have been ignored, laughed off, or been "dealt with" with the offer of generic ear buds! Have any of the architects of this monster even been down to St Peters at night and heard the horrendous noise? It beggars belief to experience it. Words alone cannot describe what impact all this is having on my friends and family. The result is that a community has been destroyed and I have lost the comfort and company of many of my friends and family. My friends' and families' health, mental well being, and financial situations have all been compromised by these impacts.

The benefits of this project are not clear, they are never been clear. This sort of project is backwards thinking, it will not bring a solution to traffic congestion or driving times. The costs continue to blow out. It will not connect to the airport or freight terminals. It will spew thousands more vehicles on to our local road system which will be unable to cope with the increase, and will no doubt result in the creation of clearways which will damage our local retails strips and our local economy. The unfiltered ventilation stacks impose real health risks on the community. The loss of heritage homes, trees and green space throughout the inner west has been tragic. The PR spin of "new green spaces" being provided alongside the traffic interchanges is simple ridiculous – who would want to relax next to a spaghetti interchange and ventilation stacks? It is offensive to our intelligence to spin such crap. Why have we the taxpayers paid for this infrastructure, to now have it privatized and sold to a corporation who will charge us again to use it? Why is our government recklessly building roadways and tunnels and not on better public transport platforms?

Westconnex is a wasteful, useless, destructive monster. We didn't want it, we still don't want it, why is it being forced on us?