

**Submission
No 296**

INQUIRY INTO IMPACT OF THE WESTCONNEX PROJECT

Name: Mr Ray Rauscher

Date Received: 31 August 2018

August 2018

The Director
c/- Legislative Council
Standing Committee on Public Accountability
Parliament House
Macquarie Street
Sydney NSW 2000

Submission to the Inquiry into the Impact of WestConnex

Name: ray rauscher

To the Director,

Please find my comments on the Inquiry into the impact of WestConnex based on the Terms of Reference as follows.

I agree to my name being published.

(a) The adequacy of the business case for the WestConnex project, including the cost-benefits ratio

Cost benefit analyses have been deficient (reference to my earlier note).

(b) The cost of WestConnex project, including the size and reasons for overruns

Far too expensive when you consider public transport alternatives.

(c) The governance and structure of the WestConnex project including the relationship between Sydney Motorway Corporation, Roads and Maritime Services, the Treasury and its shareholding Ministers

Need more accountability to Government.

(d) The compulsory acquisition of property for the project

The project needs review before more acquisitions are made.

(e) The recommendations of the Audit Office of New South Wales and the Australian National Audit Office in regards to WestConnex

The Audit offices comments have to be taken into account.

(f) The extent to which the project is meeting the original goals of the project as articulated in 2012

I do not believe those 2012 goals are being met.

(g) The relationship between WestConnex and other toll road projects including the Sydney Gateway, Western Harbour Tunnel, F6 and Beaches Link

Needs examination and reporting to State/

(h) The circumstances by which WestConnex and the Sydney Gateway were declared to be separate projects in 2017

Needs consideration of both projects together.

(i) The cost of the project against its current valuation as determined through the sale of the Sydney Motorway Corporation and whether it represents a good investment for NSW taxpayers

Does not appear to be a good NSW taxpayers investment.

(j) Any other related matter

Public transport alternatives (to WestConnex) have not received the needed adequate cost benefit studies. These studies (as alternatives still exist to sections of the project) need to include sustainability criteria around urban planning principles (not just transport principles).

Sustainable transport principles (examining all modes of transport) against the urban planning (to 2056) needs examination re. any further major road projects.