

Submission  
No 466

**INQUIRY INTO IMPACT OF THE WESTCONNEX  
PROJECT**

**Name:** Name suppressed

**Date Received:** 31 August 2018

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Partially  
Confidential

Dear committee members,

Thanks for the opportunity to make a submission to the inquiry.

I live very close to the St Peters interchange (Crown St) so have been following the Westconnex since day 1.

I'm not anti-development, but I am against the large scale spending of public money where there is a lack of meaningful public consultation and almost-zero transparency.

As someone regularly impacted by the building works, my submission is relevant to this point in the TOR:

**c) consideration of 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**

Some points in relation to management of our particular street:

- Crown St is a one-way street but as a consequence of Westconnex works, the direction has been changed a number of times in the last 12 months. This has happened so many times, that cars are driving both ways down the street regardless of the "right" direction on the day. It's been very confusing and dangerous. We have many kids living in the street, some who play on their scooters. I don't believe the risk related with the Westconnex-driven changes have been properly considered or managed.
- The changing conditions for traffic in our immediate area means more drivers are using our street to get out of the area. Many of these vehicles are not local and are driving very fast up our narrow street. I suspect many of them are irritated at the closed roads that they're used to accessing, so when they use Crown St, they're not driving safely. There is no effective traffic control or signs to ask drivers to take care and drive slowly.
- I've had correspondence with NewM5 about this issue of safety but they've told me the traffic controllers can't help with speed issues. This is from one email I received from NewM5:  
"Unfortunately the traffic controllers do not have the power to enforce speeding; they are there to guide motorists safely and slowly through the traffic changes. Most motorists are cooperative but there are some who are not." I've witnessed the traffic controllers many times...they often don't interact with drivers. They stand at the side of the road, sometimes with signs, sometimes not. It isn't a proactive service.
- I've asked Westconnex 3 times since early July for information about the Stage 3 tunnel, following its approval (please see my email provided at the end of this document). I've yet to receive any response despite the huge impact this will have on Crown St, as the entry/exit tunnel travels under all the homes in our street.
- NewM5 decided late last year to send the entire westbound traffic from Campbell Rd into Crown St, as part of its plan to manage traffic because of building works. This would have been a disaster for a myriad of reasons but after urgent correspondence with Inner West Council (who had not been consulted on the changes) and others, this was changed. The fact

that NewM5 made this traffic plan in the first place is an indication of the slapdash way this project is managed.

- The traffic changes in our area because of Westconnex has meant, if residents would like to drive north on the Princes Hwy/King St, we're required to make a dangerous crossing of 3 lanes of Princes Hwy traffic (without traffic lights or any other assistance) and into 3 lanes of Princes Hwy traffic. This issue has never been addressed or discussed at any point by Westconnex or traffic authorities but is a high risk manoeuvre for locals.

In addition:

- I question the management of dirt, dust, particulate matter from the St Peters interchange site and Campbell Street locations. We are constantly removing high amounts of filth covering the floor and all surfaces of our home, inside and out. As someone who drives and walks regularly in the area, it's not uncommon to see dust flying around on windy days. This is an on-going complaint, I understand, to the EPA.

Email sent to Westconnex on 3 occasions without any reply

*Hi there,*

*I'm a resident in Crown St, St Peters.*

*I'm contacting you to find out, now that Stage 3 is approved, what will the process be in relation to tunnelling under our street. I understand the exit/entry of the tunnel will run under Crown St, very close to our underground garage as well as the underground garages of other developments in Crown St.*

*Can you please clarify the following if possible:*

- *When is tunnelling under Crown St due to begin? How long will tunnelling under Crown St itself take?*
- *Will the buildings in Crown St undergo dilapidation/building reports, on behalf of Westconnex, in case of damage caused by the tunnelling? When can we expect to have those building reports done? In what timeframe do you have those reports done, before the actual construction work (that prompts those reports) begins?*

*Thanks. A response in writing is appreciated.*

*Crown St, St Peters*