INQUIRY INTO IMPACT OF THE WESTERN HARBOUR TUNNEL AND BEACHES LINK

Name: Name suppressed

Date Received: 13 May 2021

Partially Confidential

To whom it may concern,

I am a resident of Cliff Avenue in Northbridge. I am the daughter of the owner of the property. I have lived in Northbridge all my life and have come to appreciate the serenity of the suburb. When friends visit, they often comment on how it can be so quiet and peaceful and yet so close to the city. To me, this is the most valued part of my suburb.

I was very disappointed to learn that the Western Harbour Tunnel and Beaches Link (WHTBL) was planned for my suburb. I am extremely concerned about the impacts of these works due to their environmental and health impacts.

It is so rare to have so much bushland so close to the city. I love that I have a bushwalk right on my back doorstep. This bushland stands to be utterly ravaged by the WHTBL if it goes ahead. The impacts of this project on the environment will be detrimental and I am truly concerned about the future of environmental preservation in this suburb.

Further, the impacts on health will be dire. The proposed unfiltered stacks so close to primary schools in the area can only negatively impact the children who have to spend hours a day right next to them. I am sure, however, that it is not only children who will be impacted. Northbridge's elderly population who treasure their daily walks through the suburb's beautiful nature will no doubt incur negative health impacts as a result of being so close to the unfiltered stacks. Also, the 70 trucks per hour travelling along Flat Rock Drive will cause increased traffic pollution and also dust pollution. Should the trucks drop any construction materials along this road, it will create a gridlock. But additionally, it will cause dust to be kicked up and ingested by Northbridge residents, which will have adverse impacts on their health in the long term (taking into account how often this is likely to happen).

I am also concerned about noise pollution. 2020 and the COVID situation caused us to adapt to work and study from home. Personally, I have been studying from home and my university expects that online studies will continue well into the next few years. Many Northbridge residents also chose not to go back to their offices and rather to work from home due to the convenience and accessibility it provides. The noise pollution from 70 trucks an hour travelling on such a limited road will cause exorbitant noise pollution levels - the trucks themselves driving, dropping off materials, cars beeping because that road is not equipped to accommodate that level of traffic, etc. This will disrupt work and study from home which will adversely impact the local economy in Northbridge/Willoughby in the future.

I thank you for taking this submission into consideration. I look forward to reading about your findings.

Kind regards,