

Submission  
No 88

**INQUIRY INTO IMPACT OF THE WESTERN HARBOUR  
TUNNEL AND BEACHES LINK**

**Name:** Name suppressed

**Date Received:** 8 June 2021

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Partially  
Confidential

I make this submission not as an expert in any of associated fields of this proposed project, but as a long standing resident of Northbridge of over 40 years. I would like to state at the outset that the proposed design and tunnel path for the Beaches Link will impose a severe and significant impact on the residents of Northbridge, no matter what our government decision makers may say to the contrary.

I do have experience in the field of occupational health and safety and risk management given the lengthy timeline for this proposed project. Thus I do understand the concerns of local residents with respect to issues of noise and potential health risks posed by the transmission of airborne particles. Even if the project were to be approved, notwithstanding, as I believe, a majority of Northbridge residents opposing it, these vital risks must be dealt with correctly and precisely not only to safeguard the health of local residents but also the proposed workforce for this large project. Ventilation stacks must be FILTERED, effective noise suppression and the transmission of airborne particles has to be minimised to the lowest possible emission levels.

Whilst the submission by the Northbridge Progress Association of 28.02.'21, covers main points of concern to local residents, it does so on the premise that this project will proceed in its current form. In its recommendations to ameliorate main risks identified, it does not to my mind clearly highlight the severe and disruptive impact of traffic flows through Northbridge Junction, local Northbridge streets and Flat Rock Drive. It is inconceivable that the reported movement of 70 trucks/hour in and out of the Flat Rock excavation site will NOT cause severe disruptions to traffic flows. This will then cause peak hour motorists to avoid Flat Rock Drive and guess what, divert their journey through Northbridge Junction, thus causing a mayhem and possibly more accidents as a result of the manner in which some motorists drive.

This will then cause severe holdups for local motorists and other transient drivers to emerge from the peninsula at the Junction and cause more traffic flows in local streets where, in some, there are public and private schools. Thus I completely reject the assertion in traffic projections showing minor impacts on local roads in and around Northbridge with mitigation measures (??) in place. What mitigation measures are these?? None the less, the impact on some local streets will be SEVERE.

I am not against this project per say, but I do hold serious concerns for the health and safety of local residents with respect to the main issues I have raised. I do support the many voices saying the dig site at Flat Rock gully has to be relocated by this government lest it becomes a political liability. Where to though remains the unanswered question? I am in agreement with all the recommendations of the NPA submission with respect to the range of risks raised. But most of all the issue of traffic management in the Northbridge area during the construction phase of the project has to be well developed, closely considered and studied, and managed very precisely to minimise the serious and disruptive impact this will have on local residents.

I forgot to add the risk of mental health issues that can emerge for some residents especially in the older age brackets. This government has to be reminded that it does have a DUTY OF CARE to all Northbridge residents and that responsibility bears heavily of the Premier, our local member. I am sure she is fully aware of this and will ensure that all necessary actions will be taken to safeguard our health, safety and the local amenity from serious consequences.

Thank you for this opportunity.