

**Submission
No 172**

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

Name: Mrs Trudi Elliott

Date Received: 14 June 2021

I write this submission to you concerning the proposed Beaches Link Tunnel as a homeowner in Balgowah whose house sits adjacent to the golf course

I most strongly object to this project for the following reasons :

1 The business case for the proposal is highly flawed . The E.I.S uses figures collected in 2016 and therefore irrelevant now , post Covid . In fact more than half of Northern Beach residents work in the Northern Beaches . This hugely expensive project will not save travel times as the E.I.S has stated - their predictions are exaggerated

2 The tunnel will not ease traffic congestion and delay - conversely - traffic on Wakehurst Parkway would double , delays would occur at tunnel portals and Wanganella Street would become severely overused , spilling more vehicles onto Condamine and Woodland Street

3 The disruption caused by such construction is unimaginable . Six years and possibly up to ten years of noise disturbance due to 24 hour tunnel excavation and possible damage to homes close to the portals. . Local schools will suffer unacceptable noise pollution as the worksite operates from 7 am to 6 pm . Airbourne pollution from unfiltered emission stacks effecting all who reside near to the proposed stacks . Large trucks continually taking spill through local streets causing more disturbance and traffic problems , with even more emissions .

Homes in Dudley Street being compulsorily purchased - the list goes on.

4 The environmental impact of such a development - the reduction of water flow into Burnt Bridge Creek possibly as much as 95% causing contamination in periods of dry weather . Threat to Manly Dam from run off from the construction site may render this public park as a lost facility . Draining Middle Harbour and disturbing toxic sediment effecting marine life and endangering water fitness at Sandy Bay, Clontarf Beach and elsewhere . Removal of 2500 trees or more . Destruction of large areas of bushland causing catastrophic threat to endangered species and plants

5 The way forward is clearly to reduce vehicle usage , reduce carbon footprint , to radically improve air quality for the sake of all in the community and this must be achieved by providing quality regular public transport such as light rail , bus and ferry