

**Submission
No 169**

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

Name: Mr Ian Martin

Date Received: 15 June 2021

I am a local resident who moved to Balgowlah 3 years ago and oppose the Beaches Link project for a number of reasons including:

1. Inadequate Cost/Benefit calculation
2. Environmental Impact
3. Little consideration for alternatives e.g Public Transport

The Beaches Link Project should be considered separate to the Western Harbour Tunnel. We have not received any information on the Cost/Benefit of such a project and where we have been provided with benefits such as time savings, they are totally unrealistic. For example, the impact of CV19 has forever changed the workplace and travel patterns.

The environmental impact of the Beaches Link will be enormous with the loss of the Balgowlah Golf Course. As a society we need to encourage people to exercise and removing such a facility and expecting them to join other already crowded courses has the opposite effect. The Link Road through the golf course is a last minute and poorly planned decision along with the promise of sports fields (suitable for -25 year olds who will use them as oppose to all ages playing golf). The mature trees will be removed and Burnt Bridge Creek will never be the same with a massive loss of wildlife.

In addition, the impact on Manly Dam and marine life at harbour beaches such as Clontarf, etc. will also be impacted. Local streets (such as mine) will become rat runs.

There has been little consideration of Public Transport alternatives. The majority of traffic is coming from North of Brookvale and alternative transport options to Chatswood from Dee Why could be explored.