INQUIRY INTO IMPACT OF THE WESTERN HARBOUR TUNNEL AND BEACHES LINK

Name: Name suppressed

Date Received: 16 June 2021

Partially Confidential

Dear Public Works Committee,

Thank you for the opportunity to make a submission to the inquiry into the impact of the Western Harbour Tunnel and Beaches Link. I strongly object to these projects and urge you to recommend that the NSW Government abandon them immediately. I note that the overwhelming majority of submissions to the NSW Planning Portal also object to these projects.

With regards to the terms of the inquiry I have particular concerns about:

- (b) the adequacy of the consideration of alternative options,
- (c) the cost of the project, including the reasons for overruns,
- (j) the impact on the environment, including marine ecosystems,

I have lived in Northbridge for over 20 years and have 2 teenage children. I travel through the area every day to take my children to and from the train station, to work in Lane Cove West, and to support the local shops and restaurants in the area. I cycle whenever possible and drive across Sydney on the weekends to visit family and friends, and to take my children to their various sporting activities.

During the time I have lived in Northbridge the traffic in Sydney has got so much worse, despite the never-ending roadworks and construction of new tollways. I am anxious that these proposed projects will further encourage car use over public and active transport, and will lead to greater congestion, pollution, and frustration. I have seen how a single incident near the Harbour Bridge can gridlock the city and most of the roads on the lower north shore. Funnelling even more traffic to the Warringah Freeway will only make this more likely and problematic.

I worry about my children's (and eventually grandchildren's!) health and safety and want to see better planning for their future. I want to see Sydney adopt cleaner, more efficient transport systems and away from our growing and unsustainable car reliance. I want to retain all the bush and parkland we have available, and want to avoid dredging the harbour in areas where contaminants have been found. I strongly object to these projects and the billions of dollars that will be wasted on them, the money can be better spent elsewhere.

Yours sincerely,