INQUIRY INTO IMPACT OF THE WESTERN HARBOUR TUNNEL AND BEACHES LINK

Name:Name suppressedDate Received:18 June 2021

Partially Confidential

I leave it to others to look at environmental damage from construction and Stack pollution. What I am concerned about is the need for more roads when we have a seeming congestion problem with a Government that desires "Efficiency" but is about moving vehicles rather than moving people or information. In the United Kingdom Greater London Council has a Congestion Tax which cut traffic in the GLC area considerably enabling Public Transport to carry passengers more effectively and often profitably. This would be more difficult in less densely built parts of Sydney but a toll on the M5 east Tunnel has cured the worst congested stretch of a Sydney Motorway very rapidly.

I suggest a congestion Tax be imposed on traffic during all of Sydney's congested roads during heavy traffic periods. This will discourage people who "drive to be seen" but will mostly encourage use of Public Transport. In high use areas such as the Mona Vale to City via Dee Why and Mosman corridor a rail service would be practical as it would have a built in patronage already around 10 000 per hour at busiest, and would grow by up to 70% within a year or two due to unmet demand not found by surveys beforehand. (Railways generally are less polluting as well when electrified and frequent.)

Roadbuilders know this too, as do other sales people for cars houses and holidays to exotic destinations.

These are my thoughts and thank you for giving me an opportunity to express them. I unfortunately dont have as much access to hard date as I used to.