

Submission  
No 340

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

**Name:** Name suppressed

**Date Received:** 17 June 2021

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Partially  
Confidential

17<sup>th</sup> June 2021

The Hon. Daniel Mookhey MLC  
Chair  
Public Works Committee  
NSW Legislative Council  
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<https://www.parliament.nsw.gov.au/committees/inquiries/Pages/inquiry-details.aspx?pk=2767#tab-submissions>

Submission to the Inquiry into the Impact of the Western Harbour Tunnel and Beaches Link

Dear Public Works Committee,

Thank you very much for the opportunity to voice my deep concerns for the Western Harbour Tunnel and Beaches Link projects which I absolutely object to. This is the first time I have felt that the serious concerns of Northern Beaches residents has been given serious consideration. The 'community consultations' have been token gestures, especially during Covid when they could not hold community face-to-face meetings. They had to be 'virtual', and a lot of the community were not advised of changes or able to log onto the meetings. I am very grateful for this inquiry and trust that you will take our concerns seriously.

I am a resident of Balgowlah Heights and although my home has not been acquired, and I don't live opposite the Balgowlah Golf Course, which is going to become a major construction site, as a long term resident of Balgowlah I do not want to see the Golf Course lost nor the environmental degradation the total project will create.

I strongly object to the Projects as the NSW Government has not released a business case for the Northern Beaches Tunnel – even though it has gone from an original \$3billion to now a \$12billion project!! I also strongly object due to the environmental disasters it will create on the Northern Beaches and Cammeray/Willoughby areas. The Flat Rock Gulley ex dump site is exceptionally toxic and I have heard that even the North Shore Hospital has advised that they don't know what they dumped in there and therefore they recommend that no excavation is contemplated at the site. The damage to Middle Harbour due to dredging will affect the community for 10 years plus. The Manly Dam, which is the only freshwater lake in Sydney that is currently swimmable, will be impacted and not swimmable. These forecasts have been verified by reputable environmental groups.

I would like to see the NSW Government look at alternatives to the Tunnel – like more public transport. We have just had a major change to all the bus routes on the

Northern Beaches, and it has negatively impacted a lot of people, especially school children. The Government has accepted some 'stupidity' in the changes and adjusted it – but unfortunately it has driven a lot of people to get back into their cars as the alternative is multiple bus changes. The NSW Transport Minister has also announced the Manly Freshwater Class Ferries are being replaced with smaller ferries made in China. (Without any consultation with the Manly/Northern Beaches residents!! Who are appalled and fighting a campaign to save their ferries) Why is he not considering putting on more Ferry Services on the harbour. Manly to Barangaroo. Manly to Milsons Point. I truly feel that public transport options need to be reviewed. A BLine bus service from Mona Vale to Macquarie Park train station. A BLine bus service from Dee Why to Chatswood, via the Northern Beaches Hospital. This would take a lot of traffic off the Spit Bridge and Mosman Roads.

I implore you to please look at alternatives to this project which is going to be over budget if it does get approved, and as a NSW tax payer, I cannot see any benefit in the Northern Beaches Tunnel. I would be very embarrassed to explain to drought, fire, flood and Covid victims in NSW why a Government is wasting \$12billion ++++++