

Submission
No 346

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

Name: Name suppressed

Date Received: 17 June 2021

Partially
Confidential

Submission for the NSW Parliamentary Inquiry –

Impact of the Western Harbour Tunnel and Beaches link Tunnel

I strongly object to the proposal of a Beaches link Tunnel, all it will do is take more vehicles into the CBD, instead of the Government having a greater focus on public transport. Note the success of the B Line Buses. The congestion caused by the Link Rd intersection on Sydney Rd at Balgowlah Boys High will be unmanageable especially during school zone times. My other objections are outlined in this submission.

My house at [redacted] Balgowlah is under compulsory acquisition for the Beaches link Tunnel. The house is a beautiful federation home over 100 years old, built by my Grandfather [redacted], after he came home from the 1st World War. My Father [redacted] lived in the home after he came back from the 2nd World War. We are the third generation to live in this home.

We have made improvements and extensions including acquiring a further 100 square meters of land and building a 4 car garage. The block is now 800 sq mt.

The house was also under threat from the Burnt Bridge Creek Deviation for a period of 40 years.

Where are we going to be able to replace this?? Certainly not in Balgowlah where we have lived all our lives.

TfNSW door knocked the street the DAY BEFORE the announcement by the Minister. We were not at home, they managed to call me on my mobile as I was driving, to inform me that the house was to be acquired. I had no idea what the call was about: I was told as I was driving, which absolutely devastated and upset me. This was 18 months ago – 2 weeks before Christmas - and we have been in limbo ever since, unable to sell except to TfNSW. We are in our late 60's and working madly to do painting, repairs etc, so that we have a chance of getting a FAIR valuation, even though the home will be demolished. How environmentally unfriendly is that? We were planning to live out our days of retirement in peace, what do we do now???

Terms of Reference:

(b) Alternative options don't seem to have been considered including increased public transport: rail, tram, light rail & buses.

The fact that so many people now work from home some days of the week or work locally.

(c) The cost to taxpayers for the road Tunnel compared to a rail tunnel, which would move more people and be beneficial to the environment.

(d) A public/private partnership does not seem viable as the tunnel would not generate enough income and the tunnel does not feed into other tollways. This will cost the taxpayers billions

(f) Poor community consultation for the EIS, 10,000 pages long and the refusal to supply a hard copy, or to increase the time available for submissions. The unfiltered exhaust stacks near homes and schools will have a huge impact on health for generations of school children.