

Submission  
No 354

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

**Name:** Mrs Ailis Merrigan

**Date Received:** 16 June 2021

---

I live in \_\_\_\_\_ at North Balgowlah and I wish to object to the proposal for the following reasons: I object to the building of a tunnel which will be used for cars. Where is the vision and thought in this proposal? Why has this been forced onto the community without any other options? I believe light rail and better bus connections would help reduce the need for cars to be used. This is a terrible waste of money - there is no doubt the cost will be more than it is quoted at present. The public deserves the best value for money and I don't believe this is the best we can get. The proposed toll on the tunnel is prohibitive - people will try to avoid it, causing traffic rat runs in local residential streets.

I object to the destruction of Balgowlah golf course for the purpose of a construction support site. This is a wonderful green space with hundreds of old trees which are to be removed – trees which provide food and homes for birds and wildlife. When complete it will have playing fields and also a ventilation stack. This will be an eyesore in the middle of this beautiful green space and playing sport near it will cause the users to be breathing in toxic fumes. I object to the destruction of Burnt Bridge Creek with contamination from the construction of the tunnels. This is an area of great biodiversity and I cannot imagine why it would have to be destroyed. It is an area which so many residents enjoy with trees and shade. The water from the creek makes its way to the Ocean at Queenscliff and no one wants to swim in polluted water from this project. I object strongly to the use of unfiltered emission stacks in an area where there are schools, preschools and homes in close proximity. Thousands of schoolchildren and residents will have pollution from these two tunnels raining down on them for the future. This is not acceptable. I object to the destruction of part of Manly Dam. This is an area of importance and should be protected not destroyed. There are areas of Aboriginal significance in Manly Dam and these cannot be destroyed. Areas of significance can be damaged by drilling and boring nearby and also by vibrations. It is a wildlife corridor and every part of it should be preserved and protected. I object to the dredging of Middle Harbour with the possibility of harmful toxins being released in the water and polluting the Seaforth swim areas and surrounds.

I request an end to this proposal. There needs to be more consideration of better public transport options in the Northern Beaches. Thank you.