

**Submission
No 415**

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

Name: Mr John MacNaughton

Date Received: 17 June 2021

As a local resident living 500 metres from the proposed northern beaches tunnel entrance, I am opposed to this tunnel for the following reasons:

1. A Beaches Link will increase Traffic volumes into the city and north sydney on weekdays and into the northern beaches on weekends. But parking is not available at these destinations for the additional cars. Parking space is in council jurisdiction and councils in the Sydney CBD, North Sydney and Northern Beaches are working to decrease car commuting, not to increase it. Creating multiple parking stations for many hundreds of additional cars is environmentally unsound.
2. The combined effects of working from home and the popularity of B-Line bus services on traffic volumes have significantly reduced the need for a beaches link.
3. Access to the Beaches Link relies on residential feeder roads such as Kitchener Street, Woodland Street and Wanganella Street that are already choked with traffic during the morning peak hours. The Beaches Link will significantly increase traffic volume. This just moves the traffic delay from the Spit Bridge and Military Road into the streets of Balgowlah. There is no provision in the plans to remediate this issue.
4. The morning prevailing breezes from the west down the natural valley will blow car exhaust emissions from the proposed exhaust vents across Balgowlah, Fairlight and Manly. The positioning of the vents adjacent to primary schools and preschools will expose children to these exhausts all day, every school day from age 3 to age 12.
5. During the five years proposed for the building of the project, the noise from heavy trucks moving spoil from the tunnel will disturb the quiet environment for local preschool and primary school students, businesses, shift-workers and workers at home in Balgowlah, Seaforth and Manly Vale.