

**Submission  
No 516**

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

**Name:** Ms Elizabeth Boyd

**Date Received:** 18 June 2021

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Dear Member of the Parliamentary Committee,

I have lived in North Balgowlah since 1981 and have enjoyed the quiet amenity of this family-friendly area which is now under threat. I object to the construction of the Beaches Tunnel in its present form.

The amenity will be despoiled during the construction period by noise from trucks and machinery and by dust and exhaust pollutants. The psychological impacts of these changes needs also to be considered. The finish date will 2029 at the earliest. Judging from other infrastructure records, this period is likely to be extended. I know people whose experience of the road infrastructure construction has driven them demented.

After completion the area will be the poorer for green space and environmental integrity, especially in the Manly Dam area which is a unique haven in this area for many endangered species, especially the galaxias climbing fish. More cars, more rat-runs, more pollution.

Sydney is already the most tolled city in the world. Toll roads and tunnels are retrogressive - a charge on movement of goods and services which are already taxed and on the travel of private citizens whose taxes pay for the construction in the beginning. During the industrialization of England one of the first obstacles to go were the turnpike roads which profited private land holders. We are going backwards.

When I came to this area we still had koalas here. We don't want to ruin what we have left.

We need better public transport. I would love to see an electric train tunnel built linking Chatswood to Brookvale or Dee Why. I call for a moratorium on this beaches tunnel construction because it is a stand-alone development, independent of the Western Harbour Tunnel. We can find a solution which is much better for all, not just the few.

Thank you for your consideration.

Elizabeth Boyd