

**Submission
No 524**

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

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As a GP at Dee Why, I am constantly reminded of the problematic scenario we are steering into: increased air pollution from car use/ vents will result in an increase in respiratory diseases, more hard surfaced heat islands will result in more heat stress / cardiovascular problems and removal of natural bushland with decreasing activities in a relaxing environment and will result in an increase in mental health problems like anxiety & depression and physically an increase in weight problems.

With climate change and an expected increase in infectious diseases like Covid19, we all experienced the incredible uptake of nature seeking activities by our population and we must keep these assets rather than destroy them.

I do object to the tunnel for above reasons and also because the environmental destruction (vegetation clearing incl DFEC, habitat incl critical habit destruction; water pollution and exposure of toxins in the harbour floor bed is unreasonable)

Least and last I find the amount of money to be spent on this project outrageous and so many additional negative flow on health effects have not even been included in that figure.

I do thank you for your inquiry into this project.