

Submission
No 527

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

Name: Mrs Barbara Saville

Date Received: 18 June 2021

Dear Public Works Committee,

Thank you for the opportunity to submit to an inquiry regarding these projects. I strongly object to the Western Harbour Tunnel (including the Warringah Freeway Upgrade) and Beaches Link (including the Gore Hill extension) projects and urge you to recommend that the NSW Government abandon these plans immediately.

I have lived in Northbridge for more than 45 years and am now sharing my home with my family including 4 grandchildren who travel to schools in this area. I travel through the area daily to reach my place of work. Whenever I travel to the city or to Chatswood I use public transport and am very keen to support this form of transport. My husband daily goes for a walk around the suburb past Northbridge Baths and also swims in the Baths throughout the summer months. All of these activities will be adversely affected by these projects particularly as most of these occur in and around the Warringah Freeway and Middle Harbour. I am concerned about the degradation of public transport services with a 30% drop-in services on the North Shore to add to the cuts on the Northern Beaches. I do not see how these projects support the transition to a cleaner and more functional city. School and commuter routes are currently regularly blocked by traffic seeking to access the Warringah Freeway and the notion of limiting the on and off ramp access to this corridor will further exacerbate this problem. There seems to have been little or no consideration about local traffic needs or local pollution. There is clearly also the added issue of more people moving into the area with new unit developments which will make the local streets even more congested. I am concerned about my grandchildren's health and safety and want to see better planning for their future. I also want to see Sydney transition to a cleaner, more efficient transport system and move away from our growing and unsustainable car reliance. I strongly object to these projects and the billions of dollars that will be wasted on them.

I attended the meeting at the Northbridge Golf Club when this proposal was first mooted and have indicated my disquiet on this proposal a number of times since that in submissions to the department of planning which should be on record with that department.

I know that I have raised the issues of

- (b) the adequacy of the consideration of alternative options,
- (f) the consultation methods and effectiveness, both with affected communities and stakeholders,
- (j) the impact on the environment, including marine ecosystems. Additionally, subsequent to the EIS process I have become aware that PFAS and other contaminants have been detected in Middle Harbour very close to where the baths are. This is another reason for not dredging the Harbour at this location.

I am happy to have my name published.

Yours Sincerely,
(Mrs) Barbara Saville