

**Submission
No 529**

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

Name: Mr Peter Vail

Date Received: 18 June 2021

I have been a resident of Willoughby for 40 years. I would like to register my objection to the Western Harbour Tunnel and Beaches Link projects for the following reasons:

1. I believe that they are a poor use of taxpayer money. They are highly likely to significantly increase traffic congestion in the affected areas, and in particular in Willoughby. The costs will inevitably be far greater than estimated.
2. The only feasible way in which traffic congestion can be improved is by massively improving public transport, particularly on the Northern Beaches. Unless public transport offers quicker travel than private vehicles for most people, congestion will continue to get worse. These projects are likely to attract extra traffic into suburban streets.
3. This project as currently planned is likely to cause devastation to wildlife and native vegetation in areas such as Flat Rock Reserve. The dredging of the harbour will cause significant pollution and seriously impact marine life.
4. The noise and pollution during construction will be horrific. The 700 extra trucks a day to carry waste are a frightening prospect.
5. Significant damage will be caused to many homes by the construction process, and the Government has proved with WestConnex that it has no commitment to adequate compensation.