

Submission
No 533

INQUIRY INTO IMPACT OF THE WESTERN HARBOUR TUNNEL AND BEACHES LINK

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Imagine being a 12 year old boy in your first year of High School. You have five and half years of education ahead of you to prepare for the HSC, University and your life beyond. Now imagine those five and half years filled with construction noise, dust polluting the air, vibrations from machinery and the constant convoy of trucks. It's difficult to learn, it's difficult to hear, the playgrounds no longer fun with all the noise and air pollution, the playing fields across the road are now a construction site for one of the largest infrastructure programs in New South Wales. Getting to school has become a dangerous game between traffic, dump trucks, cement trucks, construction equipment all within limited space. This is not how a child should spend their entire High School experience. These formative years are too important to be impacted in negative ways for such an extended period of years. No child deserves this. No child living on the Northern Beaches of Sydney in 2022, 2023, 2024, 2025, 2026 and 2027 deserves this. Plans must be put in place to mitigate these issues BEFORE construction begins. Otherwise you are throwing away the formative years for thousands of bright, young boys who attend the academically successful Balgowlah Boys Campus - right across the road from the Beaches Link Tunnelling site.