

Submission
No 543

INQUIRY INTO IMPACT OF THE WESTERN HARBOUR TUNNEL AND BEACHES LINK

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Northbridge NSW 2063
18th June 2021

Objection to Western Harbour and Beaches Link Tunnel

As residents and property owners directly impacted by both the build and on-going substructure of this project, we believe that the overall benefits of this project have not been satisfactorily explained whilst there are several negatives that have already been clearly identified as reasons NOT to go ahead with the project.

Relevant terms of reference

(a) (g) (e) (h)

The COVID pandemic has materially disrupted behaviours and patterns of work' life and travel in the area under consideration and it is too soon to be able to make any determinations as to where these will end up. As such, I believe it is incumbent on the planners involved to, at a minimum, delay the commissioning of this project until a new business case based on the materially changed situation can be formulated and reviewed.

(j) (k)

The proposed primary dig site in Flat Rock Gully on the eastern side of Flat Rock Drive which previously housed toxic landfill is not an appropriate choice as it not only destroys the regeneration work of the past 25 years but also creates significant risk of contamination and pollution which would impact the health of the immediate community.

Additionally, the impact on traffic in terms not just of liveability but safety requires further consideration and will be extremely deleterious to our ability to enjoy the amenity we live in for the 5+ years at least of the building process. There will be considerable additional traffic into the Northbridge environs which are already a bottleneck that has been subject to numerous studies in the context of development applications and there will be numerous negative health impacts which are a proven corollary to this increase in congestion.

We urge the committee to pressure test these issues with the planners and to move against the continuing development of this proposal unless they can be thoroughly satisfied all the above has been taken into consideration.

Yours sincerely

Gavin Partridge and Ruth Sugden