

Submission
No 547

INQUIRY INTO IMPACT OF THE WESTERN HARBOUR TUNNEL AND BEACHES LINK

Name: Mrs Annie Williams

Date Received: 18 June 2021

18th June 2021

The Hon. Daniel Mookhey MLC
Chair
Public Works Committee
NSW Legislative Council
Parliament House
Macquarie Street
SYDNEY NSW 2000

Submission to the Inquiry into the Impact of the Western Harbour Tunnel and Beaches Link
Dear Members of the Public Works Committee,

Thank you for the opportunity to submit to an inquiry regarding these alarming 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 live overlooking Tunks Park which is an area of beauty. We chose to live here because of the clean air. My husband has a lung condition and his health would be greatly affected by the building of this tunnel. It would also affect the ecology of the bushland which is the natural habitat of many native birds and animals.

There is no valid reason for affecting his health and the health of others as the completion of this tunnel is not the way forward. It may improve the traffic temporarily but it will only encourage more cars and greater pollution.

I travel regularly between Northbridge and the Northern Beaches so in theory the completion of this freeway would benefit me. However this is not what I want.
There is no business case for this project and makes no sense.

I have previously submitted a detailed submission as to why I object to these projects. Please find attached this submission/ these submissions and cross reference to your terms below:

I am a resident of Northbridge but also of the Northern Beaches. There is no valid reason for this project. Yes the roads at the moment are congested but this project will only have a short term effect. Previous extensions of roadways encourage more cars and thus more pollution and in a short time, the advantages that come initially are no more. You only have to look at the M25 around London - or better known as the carpark. The only solution is a train from DeeWhy to Chatswood and improved train connections. The new B1 works well from the Northern Beaches too. Building a tunnel and "improving" the road connection is counter productive, will increase pollution. It is an outdated solution to a 21st century problem. All other major cities are reducing car transport into the city. Why is Sydney so far behind the times?

In addition the construction of the tunnel will have a long term effect on the ecology of the bushland where I live. We will lose countless trees and bushland which is the natural habitat of rare birds, echidnas, bandicoots and hundreds of other species that survived the bushfires last year. They will not be replaced or saved. My husband has a serious respiratory condition. We chose to live near Tunks Park and Flat Rock Gulley so that his breathing would not be adversely affected. Now it appears that if this project goes ahead, there could be noxious pollution stacks nearby - noise dust and air pollution. And for no valid reason