

**Submission
No 568**

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

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I am a Balgowlah Resident and STRONGLY OBJECT to the Beaches link project.

-Impact on the environment:

due to the loss of over 12ha of bush land, native endangered wildlife and plants. That **WONT** be recovered and put back after the ridiculous widening of the Wakehurst Parkway to a multi lane road. Not even the M2, M7, and other major roads aren't as many lanes as this proposal. I am an account manager and drive on Sydney motorways often and none are this big.

-Impact to the natural waterways

Many waterways lead to manly dam, The Burnt Creek and other creeks all go to the ocean. The impact wont be recovered. The protect Flying Fox habitat that rely on these water ways along with all the other protected animals. Unfortunately the end result is the water ways will just become stormwater and polluted from construction.

-the impact of 24/7 construction

Noise and traffic impacts to Balgowlah residents will result in rat runs of small local streets that are generally one way as they don't allow 2 cars to pass. All trying to get onto the spit bridge. the impact of construction workers taking up resident parking as they work 12 hour days 6 days a week. little work has been done in this project to address these issues.

As part of my job on the road I have been driving through the mess of the Anzac bridge and the back streets of Rozelle which are choked with cars (all workers of the project).Balgowlah is a much smaller suburb with the same small streets which will be filled with workers everyday. As in Rozelle parking is a premium. The same will happen here. I live in West st and parking is hard and is essentially one way as 2 cant pass. I would recommend this street to be closed off at the bottom end to stop others using it to park and try to get to Sydney road.

-the impact to our suburb of large trucks lining the roads waiting their turn to be filled from the tunnelling. I saw this when the northern beaches hospital was being built. And again the massive trucks that leave a site (like what is being proposed here) at the Camperdown site for the city west link project.

This is proposed to be a 6 year project but will most likely go over that. It is a very long time of day to day disruption to our lives. The list of whats involved is endless that will impact the lives of the Balgowlah residents.

- Physical building of sound barriers (to house the B Double trucks and machinery)
- 24/7 tunnelling
- Destroying the golf course and oval (that Balgowlah Boys HS uses every day)
- The road works for Burnt Creek and the Wakehurst Parkway heading to Seaforth/FF
- THE LIST SIMPLY IS TOO LONG TO list

Air Quality

Will be a big issue both during the construction with dust from destroying Balgowlah oval and golf course to become a work site and then after many years later the emissions stack that apparently will cost too much to be filtered (despite in Europe they are all with filtration) and it will be equivalent to an **8-storey building**. I drive on all the motorways in Sydney and the ventilation buildings are huge and are placed really where no one lives but all the fancy drawings are very misleading in the proposal and make it look much smaller.

The quality of air will impact a far wider range than is led to believe with many schools, day care centers and us local residents that TfNSW seems to think is acceptable.

- Funny how the currently elected TRANSPORT MINISTER doesn't even live in the Northern Beaches let alone Sydney..... And will be soon leaving that role.....

-there has not been enough community consultation, - this project is based on information modelling of **2016** (so it's already outdated) and the impact of traffic back then to 2037 is not what it is now in 2021. More people work from home now due to covid-19 and with the building of this even more will be working from home so the need for this beaches link tunnel will become null and void.

The government should be focusing on better public transport options, more buses on the beaches and extend the BLine past Mona Vale would be the smart move to make. Have more BLine and offer the local services.

We will have a tunnel that connects from the Western Harbour Tunnel to the beaches tunnel that then funnels out to apparently 4-6 lanes that then goes back into 2-3 lanes that continues up the beaches to Brookvale and beyond so the purpose of this project doesn't really make sense. It just costs money to use it. Then spits you out to the road that you always use . Funny with all the work that happened for the NBH you still end up on the same road to Brookvale!!!!

It takes 35 mins to get to the city now so why would we need a tunnel that will take the same length of time??? all roads still lead to military road and that is not changing.

Lets not destroy what is a beautiful part of Sydney and why we love living here. A tunnel is not the answer.