

Supplementary
Submission
No 147a

**INQUIRY INTO GREATER SYDNEY PARKLANDS TRUST
BILL 2021**

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Date Received: 9 January 2022

Added comments to the Upper House Inquiry into Greater Sydney Parklands Trust Bill 2021

This follows my earlier submission in which I quoted from the Greater Sydney Parklands Forum, Feb 21 (<https://alliance4parks.org/online-forum>) and from which I continue to quote here.

Failed collaboration? At the forum Minister Stokes said it'd be a shame if an attempt at collaboration between the Alliance and him achieved nothing and I agree. The establishment of this Inquiry indicates lack of progress so far. The nature of the Currawong collaboration he referred to is unclear to me as it appears Unions NSW weren't involved, having sold the site to a developer four years previously.

There is a well documented collaboration beginning in 1971 between thirteen upper middle class housewives of Hunters Hill and the communists Jack Munday and his BLF comrades to save Kelly's Bush from a residential development. The collaboration continued into the subsequent Green Bans phenomenon. The developer sold the site to Hunters Hill Council.

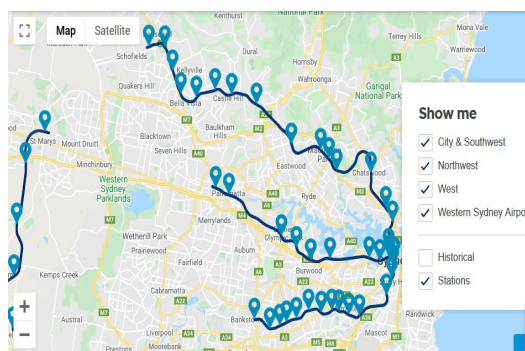
Two successful collaborations, similar challenges common causes and outcomes. The web page <https://www.nma.gov.au/defining-moments/resources/first-green-bans> sets out the Kelly's Bush battle line: *The Hunter's Hill Council referred to them as the '13 bloody housewives'*. Government and the developer v's the people. It appears the same stand-off happened in the Currawong collaboration, and is happening in this case of Sydney Parklands management.

Contradictions I think the first consideration should be the planning mess Sydney is in.

Thirty Minute Cities lose to old model Sydney radiates westward, the wealthy sector residing near the coast and harbour with two accessible CBD's north and south of the harbour to which the rest of Sydneysiders gravitate. The Thirty Minute City idea has proven to have been a big distraction while business-as-usual planning fitted the Minister's *city in a park* vision. Map on the this page shows the Metro rail system conforms to the same old model: 'know your place in this city girt by scrub and sea'. Metro train lines radiate from the Sydney CBD. First map next page, motorway tunnels cluster at the eastern side.

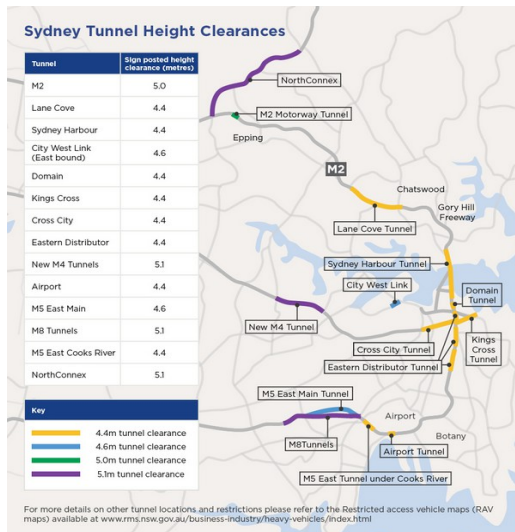
A glaring example of the ignored Thirty Minute City plan is the City-Sydenham-Bankstown-Strathfield rail loop replaced by a Tallawong-Bankstown Metro. Train passengers want seats to sit on, not fewer seats for more standing room which they will have with the Metro. Surveyed residents didn't ask for a different railway system, they wanted better north-south connections within their 30 minute Strathfield – Bankstown – Hurstville lines district.

It's wonderful to have automated signals on the Bankstown line, they'd make the existing heavy rail as efficient as Metro trains. The Government could have afforded that one important improvement without privatisation. In days of the Strathfield-Sydenham lines loop people slept past their destinations to wake up heading for their stops again. People will be sleeping through journeys that go on to the far NW limit, facing very late dinners, and wishing for the Thirty Minute City.

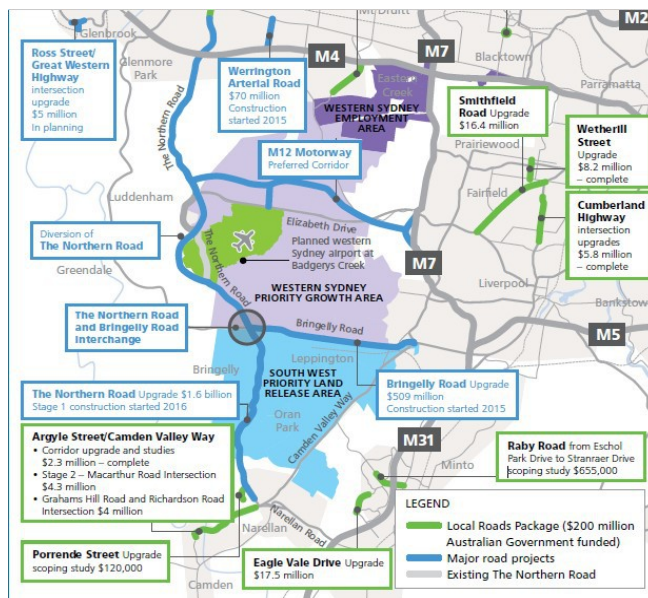


<https://www.sydneymetro.info/map/sydney-metro-interactive-train-map>

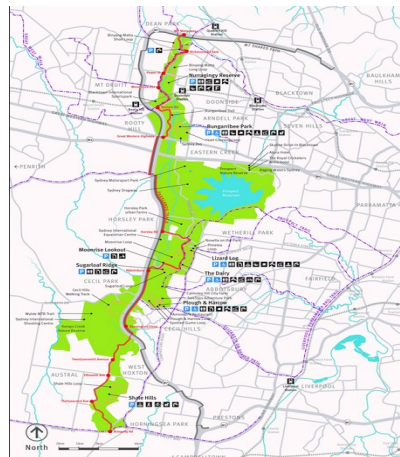
Goodbye Thirty Minute Cities centred on Sydney, Parramatta and Hornsby CBD's



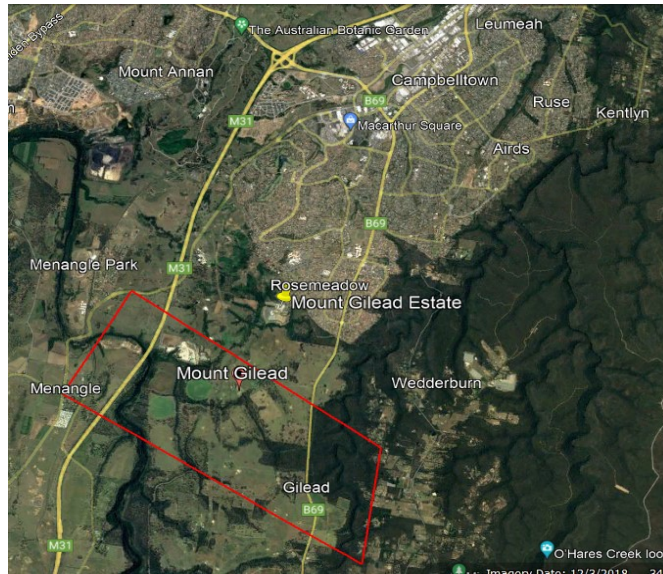
https://roads-waterways.transport.nsw.gov.au/images/roads/using-roads/major_tunnels_map.jpg
 Tunnel under the Western Sydney Parkland as well? Why not!
 Treat Western Sydney with the same seriousness as Eastern Sydney.
 For a truly Thirty Minute City, each population centre The Go To Place



page3 M12 Motorway preferred route summary report Nov 2016

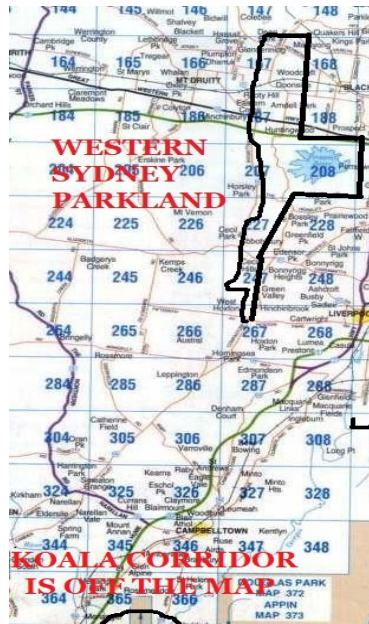


https://www.westernsydeyparklands.com.au/assets/Parklands-maps/ParklandsMap_A3_H.jpg
 Western Sydney Parklands extend south to Bringelly Road



Google Earth Pro map

The Georges River - Nepean River Koala corridor marked in red on this map.



UBD map

Koala corridor is outside the parks Three maps above reveal the Koala corridor is outside the Western Sydney Parkland. In answer to the question at the February 21 forum *Will Western Sydney Parklands establish a Koala corridor to the south that connects with Mt Gilead?*

Minister: *Urban sprawl has happened and there's a difficulty in getting connectivity but clearly we need to be looking outside the parks rather than inside for extending the parks, ...*

The Georges-Nepean rivers Koala corridor is nowhere near the Greater Sydney Parklands. Urban sprawl isn't extended so far that the Koala corridor cannot be secured.

The people and the environment should come first Governor Macquarie took the planning of Sydney and all of its people seriously but the same forces we know, of influential residents and investor power, took NSW back to being principally a penal colony, and to becoming a source of wealth for investors in big sheep runs to meet overseas demand for wool. Same story today, but its for minerals not wool. Open cut mines, the ultimate victory over natural ecosystems – total

annihilation. No furry animal embryos in mountains of overburden waiting for the right conditions to develop. We learn to not use words that disrespect and disempower others but we trivialise and debase nature. We say we're sustainable when we're not and describe our organisations and practices as ecosystems when they're nothing like it. Earth has a plague of humans. Aborigines controlled their numbers. All power to worldwide family planning; less need for land clearing. Plan for less population pressure on Sydney; foster natural ecosystems in our parklands.

He collaborated with the people Pre WWII Australian Navy lieutenant, Robert Jackson, served on four Australian ships under three Royal Navy commanders. His third commander agreed to a transfer to Malta provided Lt. Jackson went too. His first job, assess Malta's chances of surviving possible future attack. RAF wasn't prepared to waste assets on Malta's futile defence but Jacko turned them round. The island is made of limestone and the people could excavate it to sufficiently accommodate the population, provisions, water and fuel storage. He literally made Malta's survival possible, using his four legged stool metaphor, three military services plus the people. Without any one leg, stool collapses. With Malta's defence working Jacko co-ordinated Allies' supplies in the Middle East, including for Russia. Again the four legged stool metaphor. The people's needs must be met for their full participation. His biography is by James Gibson, *Jacko - Where are You Now?* (what Kofi Annan said, adding *when we need you*). Working for the UN Jacko was a *Formula 1 motor in a family sedan*. Richard Casey had offered him a job where he'd have run his own show. Stanley Bruce urged him to take it but he didn't accept the job.

Collaboration worked for Malta but in a different way to Currawong and Kelly's Bush Nations worldwide are confronted by massive challenges that cannot be met by methods to date, e.g. collaboration among the people who then have to contend with government and big money intransigence.

There has to be Jacko's type of collaboration, what Minister Stokes spoke of, between government and the people. (1:08:14) *You elect us to give us a platform to do things in the public interest and the only way we can do that is to do it collectively*. Every politician on election night likewise vows to work for every resident, to listen and respond.

Trust is gone Among the Minister's acknowledgment of the Alliance's complaints in my first submission was (1:09:00): *this idea that trust is gone, well that's not good enough, we have to put it back together again*. That's a heck of a challenge.

Can we realistically hope for such a radical change? Not according to what the Act states. In effect, if "collaboration" hasn't worked, sack the community trustee board. Could government not do deals before "consulting" the people? So often the deals are with subsidised corporations that generously donate to political parties and contrive to pay no tax.

Entrenched conspiracy theories put out by people who know better are adopted by people who know they're taken for granted but haven't the time or inclination or know-how or confidence to usefully respond to political and societal problems. They keep it simple, those pulling the strings are a cabal of pedophiles (well, whoever the string pullers are, they're as low as anyone could be anyway). Disaffection behind 6th January 21 insurrection in Washington simmers and is very symbolic of discontent here. Governments must meet the challenge. It would be a very good beginning right now to bring communities fully into the tent for managing our parklands.

Final quote of the Minister (1:10:47): *I want to work collaboratively and if the worst we achieve, we don't achieve anything, that would be a shame but if we work together collectively we can provide a really good legacy ... and it would be a new and very welcome way of governing*.

Yours sincerely
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