

Submission
No 106

INQUIRY INTO IMPACT OF THE ROZELLE INTERCHANGE

Name: Name suppressed

Date Received: 24 March 2024

Partially
Confidential

Hello

I have been involved in this project from its inception as a community representative, and the community made it very clear to TFNS and WestCONnex that this project would create more congestion and move the congestion from one area to another. It is a hundred times worse than we ever envisaged.

This entire project has been a criminal waste of tax payer money and has resulted in outrageous and completely unacceptable levels of gridlock and in addition to forcing motorists to sit in congestion for extended periods exposing them to increased levels of dangerous vehicle emissions.

It is almost impossible to comprehend how the people who designed this project could get it so wrong. Why is there a single lane overpass from Johnston Street to the Anzac Bridge and Victoria Road. This clearly should have been a two lane overpass.

Many motorists turning left at the intersection of Johnston Street and The Crescent wanting to go to the Anzac Bridge or Victoria Road are in the lane to go west on the CWL and end up forcing their way onto the overpass and in peak hour this is more than dangerous.

For years, the City West Link has been highly congested and not just during peak hours. The volume of construction vehicles and mostly B-doubles create enormous issues for motorists. This results in both long construction vehicles and motorists travelling in the far left hand lane between Norton Street and Balmain Road and then instead of turning left at Balmain Road they cross the unbroken white line and force their way into the next lane to go along the City West Link. This is incredibly dangerous and has never been policed and even after multiple requests for barriers to be installed to prevent this happening, this has been ignored and declined by TFNSW.

The level of driver frustration since the opening of this ill conceived project has resulted in increased levels of driver abuse and road rage as drivers refuse to give way in the multiple merging lanes and drivers forcing their way dangerously into other lanes to get one or two vehicles in front.

The unbelievable and extended delays now experienced by motorists accessing the Anzac Bridge from the City West Link during peak hours is outrageous and unacceptable. Out of sheer frustration and perhaps running late for work or to get to the airport, once on the Anzac Bridge the 60km speed limit is being significantly exceeded and motorists are chopping and changing lanes dangerously whilst speeding out of sheer frustration.

Again, the congestion on the CWL has been compounded by the increase in traffic lights as a result of the tunnel entrance and exit and there is often no clear run along the CWL throughout the day.

This entire project seems as though the intention is to create more congestion in the hope that it will force motorists onto public transport. This is never going to happen, due to the distances people may have to travel to work which could also result in them having to change trains and buses resulting in travelling times being significantly extended.

The entire system is in chaos and it has been an insult to tell motorists having paid billions of dollars for this project that there could be 6 months of teething issues before it settles down and that it is suggested in the meantime they should consider taking public transport.

Any perceived teething problems should have been identified and resolved prior to the project being commenced.

I live approximately 100 metres from the CWL and it can take me anything up to 14 minutes to exit Norton Street onto the CWL and this is exacerbated by construction vehicles and motorists obstructing the intersections in an attempt to not have to sit at the set of lights for multiple changes before they can proceed.

I have been asking for more than 10 years for a right turn arrow onto the CWL from Norton Street towards the city and this formal request has been both denied and ignored.

The day the project opened it took me two hours and 10 minutes to travel from Norton to Macquarie Street.

Motorists and travel times have been hugely and negatively impacted throughout the construction phase of this project and now continue to have to suffer as a result of the increased congestion and this was sold to our community as the opposite. Many people now have to leave home earlier than they previously have, to take account of the increased travelling times due to the level of congestion.

There are a number of other issues involving merging traffic on the Iron Cove Bridge which also negatively impact on road safety and motorists levels of frustration which are resulting in unsafe practices on our roads.

Yours sincerely