

Attention: Director, Transport Assessments
Planning & Assessment, Department of Planning
Industry and Environment
Locked Bag 5022
Parramatta NSW 2124

17/3/2020

Objection: Western Harbour Tunnel and Warringah Freeway Upgrade - SSI-8863

We write to express our strong objection to the Western Harbour Tunnel and Warringah Freeway Upgrade.

Global experience of toll road construction has demonstrated conclusively that projects like this increase air pollution, encourage more car use, impose exorbitant tolls on road users and eventually fill the increased road capacity they create.

We object to this Project as it:

- Fails to adequately address impacts on the community, especially noise, air quality and health impacts for local residents;
- Puts homes and businesses at risk of damage from vibrations, settlement and ground movement;
- Requires the compulsory acquisition and demolition of a number of homes;
- Will not require the filtration of exhaust stacks, at a risk to public health;
- Will pollute our harbour with toxic sediment putting Sydney Harbour's marine life at risk;
- Will have an adverse impact on greenhouse gas emissions and contribute to climate change; and
- Is not justified by any publicly released business case.

We are very concerned about the impacts that the work planned for White Bay, which is close to our home, will have on our health and well-being.

Our greatest concerns, which will affect existing allergy and insomnia problems, are:

- The unacceptable odour and possible health risks of having the toxic dredged sediment, stored within 500 metres of our home for an extended period of at least 3 years.
- The dust and excessive noise and vibrations day and night which will be created by the barge movements transferring the toxic sediment; the truck movements at White Bay and local streets; and the processing the immersed tube tunnel.

We are also very concerned about:

.The effect the vibrations and tunnelling will have on the many historic homes in Balmain which give the area its character.

. The loss of greenspace and destruction of trees in Yurulbin Park. This park is currently enjoyed for its beauty, its peace and serenity and no amount of rehabilitation will restore it in our lifetime.

. The closure of the Birchgrove Ferry for more than 2 years. The people of Balmain are fortunate to have access to a very good public transport system which is well used and is a good demonstration of the need to improve public transport rather than encourage the use of cars.

This project is a missed opportunity to transform our city's transport system to make getting around Sydney cheap, easy and fast without having to get into a car and pay a toll.

Yours sincerely,

Margaret and Leonard Clarke
[REDACTED] Balmain, 2041