

Peter Takach

17 Carr St

Waverton NSW 2060

Petervtd1@gmail.com

My wife and I strongly object to the current plans for the “Western harbour tunnel and beaches link”.

This link should be a Metro rail system, linked to the new Metro at North Sydney. Its usage would far exceed the number of cars using the tunnel and its cost effectiveness would be so much greater than the tolls collected by the tunnel. **A metro would also encourage more visitors/tourists to the northern beaches. So, it would actually promote greater revenue for the beaches, instead of traffic chaos.** As well as the reduction in green house gasses and pollution that Sydney as a major city already generates.

Major world cities are currently looking at ways to discourage car use. Even our own City of Sydney council is trying to move cars out of the CBD and encourage the use of public transport, widen their foot paths to make it safer for pedestrian and increase their green space.

Your own figures show Public transport usage has surpassed all predicted figures at this time.

Car sales world wide have decreased over the passed 18 months by 30% and are still declining. Young adults see the future with totally different forms of transport (You just need to ask them). People in general (world-wide), are not replacing their existing vehicles, because they also see the **changes are coming faster than ever due to climate change, with countries already setting dates to stop the sale of current technology vehicles.**

North Sydney LGA, as you know, has the highest concentration of Schools and child-care centres in Australia as well as a very high density of housing and a large commercial centre that brings in thousands of workers each day. Yet the plan shows a need to restrict and reduce pedestrian access to our 3 busiest streets during the construction (at least 5 years) and to reduce our green space in a number of places, Permanently. As a community we need our foot path access widened and increased for safety, NOT reduced in our CBD, and our green spaces should also be being increased not permanently reduced for cars.

The PLAN to add Unfiltered Exhaust stacks in this day and age knowing all the effects of Vehicle pollution on health and health costs to the nation is really negligent and I think criminal. If I tried to do this as a resident I would be prosecuted by the EPA and by the local council and made to destroy it. **To think that our laws, designed to protect the citizens of the NSW can be ignored in this way is just unbelievable.** The minister for health needs to take a long hard look at this plan and access the long term health of the people living and the School children that will be directly affected by the unfiltered stacks.

The PLAN also ignores or fails to include any restrictions for the timing of Noise activity Or, for peak hour times, Or for School access for children or parents dropping them off or picking them up, Or night time restrictions for truck movements, Or pedestrian access to offices or shops during the day or in peak hours.

The approval of his Plan needs to be delayed and a full study of what form of transport will best suit the Northern beaches and indeed Sydney in the future knowing that current car transport is changing NOW and will be totally different in 8 years time.