

As a resident of Callan Street, Rozelle I strongly object to the cumulative harmful health, psychological and environmental impacts of multiple government construction projects that have been forced upon us...one of them being the proposed Sydney Metro excavation of our street to put in high voltage power lines. Details of these impacts are described below.

I would also like to express extreme disappointment and frustration that there has been no proposal of a Metro stop on Darling Street in the heart of Rozelle. The proposed Metro Stop in White Bay is totally useless to the majority of residents in the area as it will be decades before residential and business development occurs there.

1. Cumulative environmental Impacts – concurrent/consecutive works affecting Callan Street

The specific component of the project that I object to is the proposed installation of a 33KV power cable in Callan Street.

Callan Street is being used as the main power supply route for multiple projects and will be subject to multiple major excavation exercises as a result. This is completely unacceptable as these concurrent and consecutive works will result in significant risk to the health and safety of all residents on Callan Street.

The projects that will have an adverse effect on Callan street residents are:

- Westconnex – relocation of Balmain Sewer – Trenching, Saw Cutting, rock hammering performed over a 7 week period in Q1 of this year.
- Westconnex – installation of Sydney Trains Pilot Communications Cable – trenching, saw cutting, rock hammering to be performed in August 2020 over a 3 month period
- Westconnex – tunneling below Callan Street at McClear Street – only 8 metres below the ground surface – late 2020/early 2021
- Westconnex – 24/7 works along Victoria Road to build the tunnel portal, ventilation system and associated structures – now until 2023

- SYDNEY METRO WEST – installation of 33KV high voltage power cable – trenching, saw cutting, rock hammering over a 3 month period – first half of 2021
- Western Harbour Tunnel – installation of high voltage power – trenching, saw cutting, rock hammering – 2021
- The Bays precinct urban transformation – installation of high voltage power – trenching, saw cutting, rock hammering

These proposed excavations are additional to the recent and ongoing negative impacts on Callan street from Westconnex. These include:

- The NSW government ignoring the findings of the Parliamentary Inquiry into Westconnex, which resolved that all exhaust stacks for current and future projects must be filtered. The exhaust stack at the top of our street will not be filtered, putting the health of our community at risk.
- The trauma of neighbours being forced to lose their homes through compulsory acquisition and having to relocate out of area while the remaining residents have been subjected to months of noise and pollution during the destruction phase.
- Exposure to harmful toxic gasses unearthed while Westconnex excavated a trench at Victoria road, resulting in an EPA investigation, initiated by our formal complaints
- Expansion works to the Ausgrid substation on Manning Street creating noise, dust and traffic disruption
- A proposed 2 week saw cutting, trenching and rock hammering job to relocate Balmain Sewer that took over 7 weeks to complete. This included 7 weeks of vibration, noise, dust and traffic disruption, all during the height of the Covid-19 lockdown!
- Ongoing noise and dust from construction along Victoria Road (day and night) – not set to end until 2023

- Upcoming Westconnex tunneling only 8 metres below many of our houses causing excessive noise and vibration. This 24 hour per day tunneling will compromise the structural integrity and value of our homes plus have an adverse impact upon our mental health
- Callan Street being the main traffic thoroughfare into the area due to road closures, creating a safety risk to local children and pedestrians. Our street is extremely narrow and cannot cope with large vehicles. This morning a resident's car was side swiped by a Westconnex truck. The driver did not stop to address the significant damage that he had caused and was speeding up our street which is a 10km/hr shared pedestrian zone. This kind of behaviour by motorists in our street is potentially lethal. I anticipate that this issue will also be present if the proposed Sydney Metro excavation work occurs in and around our street.

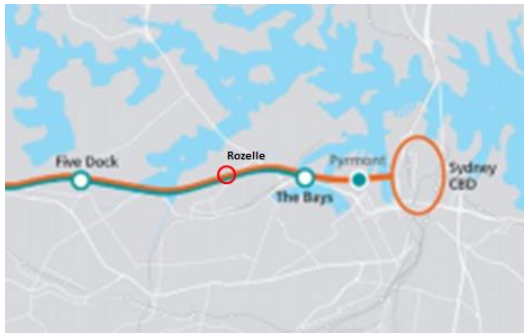
Map of cumulative works



2. Lack of consideration for the area's Public Transport needs

The BaysMetro stop is inadequate to serve the needs of the current and future population of Balmain and Rozelle and a stop between 'The Bays' and 'Five Dock' is needed to alleviate the current inadequacy of public transport.

The only option for residents in this area is to use the bus system, which is currently unable to cope with the capacity of passengers who want to use it during peak hours. Currently there are long queues on all stops eastbound on Victoria road during the morning peak with many full busses passing by these stops, unable to take additional passengers. This is a clear indication that there is a need for alternate public transport options to cope with the load. The Metro is ideally positioned to be the alternate option. The residential density along Victoria road is set to increase substantially, due to major developments such as the high rise residential project at the existing Tiger's Club site on Victoria Road and the medium density housing developments occurring along Darling Street in Rozelle. These projects and future ones will put additional stress on the already at-capacity bus service. This further reinforces the absolute necessity of a Metro stop being placed in Rozelle.



Indicative location for a Rozelle Metro stop

3. Conclusion

None of these government projects...Sydney Metro, Westconnex , Sydney Trains, Western Harbour Tunnel...benefit our area whatsoever. We are being tortured by over a decade of construction only to have transport that we cannot access in the case of Sydney Metro and Sydney Trains. In the case of Westconnex, Western Harbour tunnel...billions of dollars of taxpayers money wasted on toll roads, damned by traffic experts and proven by history to not reduce but increase traffic congestion.

AND, to add insult to injury, the government allowing 4 unfiltered exhaust stacks in Rozelle (one at the top of Callan Street), which will dump a cocktail of carcinogens on us for the rest of our compromised lives!

These projects are making this already difficult period in time...pandemics, bushfires and economic crisis...all the more unbearable and pushing residents to the brink of despair, anger and suicidal thoughts.

The government has been negligent in its lack of consideration for residents during the current construction of Westconnex. Please be considerate in the planning of Sydney Metro and re-route the high voltage electrical cable away from Callan Street.

The residents that live and work in this street are not just a line on a map.

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