

Attention: Director, Transport Assessments Planning Services.

Department of Planning, Industry and Environment.

Submission: WestConnex M4-M5 Link – Modification 2 The Crescent overpass

Application number SSI 7485

Thursday 19 September 2019

To the Director,

And Rob Stokes, Minister Dept of Planning, Industry and Environment

The original plan was an unobtrusive underground tunnel allowing traffic from The Crescent to cross the City West Link without stopping at traffic lights.

The subsequent modification backtracks on this plan whereby an imposing overpass is proposed.

This is unacceptable. The government has made a commitment to greening Sydney by increasing tree canopy and parkland - both being particularly vital to inner city areas. Buruwan Park would be destroyed if an overpass was constructed. It would also remove an essential buffer between residents and the traffic noise and pollution from the City West Link.

The aesthetic merits of the tunnel option versus overpass option are clear from the images below. The pictures say it all.

Rozelle Bay light rail stop



I planted shrubs and saplings in Buruwan Park over 20 years ago as a community project to enrich the streetscape - transforming it from a sad, neglected corner of Annandale to now, decades later, a lush, green oasis bordering the traffic.

Waiting for the tram at Rozelle Bay is an enjoyable, relaxed experience with the backdrop of trees, the canal and occasional birdlife. If this seems a dispensible consideration when planning I would say that without such oases in the urban environment you'll see more illness and anti-social behaviour arising - further burdening the State Government's purse.

The area, the community, and Sydney, will be poorer if Buruwan Park becomes one more casualty of narrow-vision planning.

I ask you to return to the original tunnel option and not pursue an overpass.

Thank you.

Regards,

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19th Sept 2019