

Application Number SSI 7485**WestConnex M4-M5 Link – Modification 2 The Crescent overpass****Todd Thornborough**

I'd like to provide feedback to the proposed overpass at The Crescent, Annandale.

Firstly though, I'd like to voice my opposition to the lack of a simple to use feedback system. It is as though DoP have designed the feedback system to be too difficult to use. The TV show Utopia couldn't have come up with something so brilliantly flawed. Or maybe it'll be in next season.

Now, re the modification. I oppose the proposed modification to the design. The original concept design is acceptable and should be retained.

The executive summary cites that the vehicular overpass is a "potential design improvement". I oppose this notion on a number of fronts:

1. The overpass will be a visual detriment to the landscape. I could harp on about this but I'll keep it simple. Elevated roads are an ugly eyesaw. It's bad enough we have the Cahill Expressway at Circular Key, the Western Distributor at Darling Harbour as well as Blackwattle Bay (Fish Markets). What kind of numbskullery would want to build another overpass adjacent to what could be a beautiful shoreline. It beggars belief that a planning department would even consider this. Do we learn nothing from the past?!
2. It will make the connection of the foreshore with Lilyfield worse. The current design is far better and should be retained. The current design provides a direct link from the foreshore to the green areas at Lilyfield. What is proposed significantly worsens what could be a fantastic outcome.
3. The proposed modification now creates another bridge. Another eyesore in order to maintain some level of direct connection between the foreshore and Lilyfield. Only this bridge will be unvegetated. It will be longer, much longer. And it will look worse.
4. The 'people's mural' will basically be a forgotten relic. Hidden behind a noise elevated roadway, it will likely become a shadowed no mans land. Where graffiti becomes rife and the mural descends into something not worthwhile even having. Shame on you for even proposing such an outcome, for the sake of moving people in the most incredibly inefficient form of transport there is - cars!

In summary, this modification is no improvement at all. Planning is usually something reserved for forethought. It's obvious that very little thought has been applied here. What a shame it would be if we prioritised vehicular traffic over the liveability of the great city of Sydney. There's no point in getting somewhere quickly if you can't enjoy it once you're there.