

41 Waterview Street,
Five Dock NSW 2046

22nd June 2015

RE: WestConnex – Voluntary Acquisition of 5 Northcote St. Haberfield

Dear

I am writing to you on behalf of my parents, property owners of 5 Northcote St Haberfield and on behalf of my four siblings who are all interested parties in this matter. We hereby request you to consider voluntary acquisition of 5 Northcote Street Haberfield due to the negative impacts imposed by the WestConnex project during construction and once the WestConnex is in full operation.

We all understand that a solution is required to solve Sydney's congestion however the construction of the tunnel exhaust stack in the immediate vicinity of the subject property and with Government acquisitions to our boundary and the understanding that we will be sharing a boundary with a work site compound for purposes of construction of the WestConnex project, results in us now being deeply concerned about my elderly parents' welfare.

The property was purchased by my parents with the view of realising a well deserved and peaceful retirement in this home that was renovated using my father's superannuation money. They never intended to sell this property. However, with the current situation pending, this poses major concerns in regards to their health, lifestyle and wellbeing not to mention a loss of value to their property which happens to be their one and only asset representing a lifetime of work. I believe the uncertainty created by WestConnex in resuming neighbouring properties owned by friends is psychologically damaging, particularly in this frail period of my parents' lives, in that my parents have come to rely on these neighbours in times of alarm or emergency.

The property is classified as "Touch and Concern", as it has a boundary to the proposed construction compound on the corner of Parramatta Rd and Northcote St./Wattle St. Haberfield and it is also well within the near-field zone, within 100 to 200m from the exhaust stack.

I have listed some of the negative impacts of the project on the property and our family –

- Health risks - The property is well within the Near-Field Zone being the most dangerous location, due to pollution from the unfiltered exhaust stacks, unlike other tunnels in Australia.
- Due to the removal of properties, established trees, structures and having the exhaust stack in such close vicinity, our property is much greater effected by vehicular pollution and traffic noise in comparison to existing roads.
- Some of the pollutants are so small that technology can't detect them, having an additional unknown effect on our health.
- Suspended particles not only cause health issues, but leaves black residue over the property, furnishing, vehicles, washing, which also penetrates the interior of the home.
- Mum suffers breathing problems and depression and is already anxiously stressing over the impending project.
- Loss of property value due to the destruction of the period streetscape and construction of the exhaust stack & health issues.
- Loss of value due to the removal of other federation homes and damaging the street scape.

- Being a non English speaking resident with health issues, mum lives on her own and will struggle with the loss of her friends in neighbouring homes. Her neighbouring friends assist her in emergencies, with transport, translation and friendship.
- Concerns that the property will be subject structural damage by work conducted by tunnel boring machines in close vicinity. (Federation homes do not have integrating concrete footings).
- Impact on our family's health and peace and quiet during family gatherings in the family home. The house was extended and fully renovated with a large rear veranda, especially for these gatherings and more important now, when dad comes home from the nursing home and we all attempt to spend quality, stress free time together. Incidentally the rear veranda, under the proposed Westconnex resumptions, will be fully exposed to the Parramatta road/Wattle Street intersection.
- Impact on health and peace and quiet while spending time outside gardening. Mum finds her gardening a healthy challenge, but enjoys and has a passion for, which also keeps her mobile and we feel is extending her life with us. More pollution and noise will stop mum gardening altogether, negatively effecting her health.

During the construction period, there other issues to deal with –

- Noise, dust, vibrations, mud, parking and access to our property.
- Noise and pollution during demolition
- Noise during construction of sheds and structures
- Noise from machinery unloading / loading vehicles and stacking or moving material in compound. Stockpiling and hardstanding materials for the civil construction.
- Noise from staff and contractors on site, starting early with prestart meetings around the property or possibly 24/7, depending on the hours of operation. Accompanying security and personal safety concerns.
- Contractors parking in the nearby streets
- West Connex employees and contractors around the property accessing the compound
- Dirty roads around compound, from mud and dust from the compound
- Uncertainty regarding concerns of the unknown, what we have not been told, such as a possible exit ramp and the new use for the vacant land, once the compound is no longer required.
- Large ugly noise walls, reducing natural light.

I believe the above issues are solid grounds for the acquisition of 5 Northcote St Haberfield and request that an offer be made for our consideration at your earliest convenience.

Looking forward hearing from you.

Yours sincerely,

Carmelo (Mel) Cassisi

Contact no: 0422 164 350

On behalf of:

Mr & Mrs V. Cassisi