

Submission: WestConnex M4 East EIS (SSI 6307)

I wish to express my strong objection to the WestConnex M4 East motorway proposal. If built it will generate additional traffic, funnelling it into heavily congested middle-ring and inner city roads, requiring the demolition of hundreds of homes and businesses to make way for road widenings on the surface road network to distribute the traffic from the motorway.

I also wish to register my objection to the government awarding tenders for the project before a full business case has been publicly released and before the EIS had been published and the public has exercised its right of participation.

The EIS process is supposed to allow for genuine public input and to result, potentially, in approval, non-approval, or approval with modifications, of the project. The present procedure makes a mockery of that right.

Government funding for this proposal – as part of the whole WestConnex proposal – will claim an extraordinary proportion of the state transport budget for years to come. This being the case, I am outraged that the EIS has failed to honestly and fully discuss its social, environmental, and economic impacts or to explain why it is preferable to other, alternative public- and active transport solutions.

In particular I draw attention to the EIS's failure to:

- Factor into the traffic modelling the very large increase in apartment construction – and therefore of population – that has been promoted by the WestConnex Delivery Authority and other agencies as a major rationalisation for the proposal.
- Honestly discuss public transport and freight rail alternatives.
- Publish a robust business case to justify expenditure of billions of dollars worth of taxpayers' funds.
- Properly describe the long term impacts of air pollution generated by the increased traffic volumes the project is designed to facilitate.
- Consider more sustainable public and active transport options that will produce a lower level of greenhouse gas emissions.

Decades-long global experience of urban motorway construction has demonstrated conclusively that big new urban roads are counterproductive. They generate a flood of new road traffic and rapidly reach capacity. That is why, globally, they have fallen out of favour and are no longer seen as a solution to congestion.

ADDITIONAL COMMENTS

As a practicing Architect of the inner West, I am most concerned that an entire conservation area, and heritage listed buildings are being demolished, and an entire community decimated. This is not in keeping with local Environmental Plans or the interests of the public realm.

POLITICAL DONATION DECLARATION

As per the requirements set out in legislation (tick box):

- ☒ I HAVE NOT made any donations exceeding \$1000 in the requisite period.
☐ I HAVE made donations exceeding \$1000 in the requisite period.

[DETAILS](#)

SIGNED

NAME

DATE

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PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY

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