

WestConnex M4 East at Haberfield

Response to EIS – project number SSI6307

OBJECTION to proposed plans.

I object to the proposed plans for WestConnex M4 East for the following reasons -

The proposed plans will devastate the Haberfield community around the Wattle Street and Walker Avenue areas and severely impact local properties and individuals along the adjoining project corridor.

The proposed plans will severely impact my property at Haberfield (address provided but withheld from publication). My property is adjoining dozens of acquired properties along Wattle Street and others along Walker Avenue. This is a significant number of contributory properties that will be demolished.

The amenity will be lost only to be replaced with destructive infrastructure – extensive roads up to 12 lanes wide at one point, entry and exit portals on Wattle Street, and a significant exhaust stack and industrial facilities in a residential street – Walker Avenue.

The scale of the demolition, excavation and construction in the Wattle Street and Walker Avenue areas is extensive and completely out of character with the surrounding amenity.

The impacts will be from both the **construction** and **operation** of the Wattle Street road widening, tunnels, and portals near Allum Street, and the Walker Avenue exhaust stack site.

The construction period will last constantly for 3 years in the immediate and surrounding area.

The operation of the Walker Avenue exhaust stack site, and Wattle Street roads, tunnels and portals will be forever and will have long term impacts.

The main **construction impacts** will be –

- Loss of surrounding homes and gardens
- Demolition noise, dust, vibration and pollution
- Construction traffic, noise, dust, vibration and pollution from the Walker Avenue exhaust stack site
- Construction traffic, noise, dust, vibration and pollution from the Wattle street roads and tunnels
- Vibration from under house tunnelling

- Traffic
- Human health
- Heritage setting

Other impacts include security issues between rear fence and noise wall and roadway, and loss of utility to driveway and garage from road closure of Allum Street.

The EIS identifies various impacts to my property among the various sections. My property is clearly within many contour maps, and highlighted in several maps in high impact areas.

The impacts are numerous and severe. The mitigation measures inadequate or ineffective.

The main **operation impacts** will be -

- Noise and pollution from the Wattle Street roads and tunnel portals
- Noise and pollution from the Walker Avenue exhaust stack site
- Vibration from very shallow under house tunnels – less than minimum.
- Damage to house structures
- Loss of surrounding homes and gardens
- Out of character infrastructure in the adjacent and surrounding environment forever
- Loss of utility to driveway and garage
- Impacts to human health
- Loss of heritage setting and value
- Severe financial loss

The EIS confirms most of the above. But the EIS favours the project and under-estimates the impacts to my property. This is unacceptable. Where the EIS states that impacts are acceptable or mitigation measures adequate, this can be disputed.

The mitigation measures proposed are inadequate, ineffective or unacceptable.

For example, a noise wall is proposed (300m long and 5m high). Even with this, the house requires window treatments. Window treatments is not acceptable to the house to minimise noise. It means windows must be kept shut. It restricts our indoor/outdoor lifestyle and house features. It also does not address our outdoor spaces. Additionally, the noise wall creates another impact – visual – which adds to other visual impacts such as loss of surrounding homes and gardens, additional street lighting, gantries and other road structures.

Some impacts, such as air pollution, cannot be mitigated. The increase from 4 lanes 70m away to 12 lanes within 10m is not acceptable. The exhaust stack will be less than 200m away.

The loss of the current environment and the close proximity of the proposed structures will be a major impact on my property.

The proposed plans clearly indicate the impacts and the EIS confirms the impacts will be severe.

The quality of life at my property and for my family will be greatly affected. It is not acceptable that a small minority of severely impacted property owners directly adjacent to the most severe sections of the project corridor be sacrificed as collateral damage.

I object to the proposed plans and to the adequacy and effectiveness of the mitigation measures.

I object to the project being approved in its current form.

I object to the project being approved without adequate compensation for severely impacted adjoining properties, including acquisition by agreement.

I demand an on-site meeting to discuss the numerous impacts, the mitigation measures, and to address the issue of acquisition.