

## **Sydney Metro Chatswood to Sydenham Submission**

### **Objection to the proposed Sydney Metro**

Made by: Pip Rath, 13/25A Hickson Rd, Millers Point

#### **I object to the Sydney Metro Plan and in relation to the proposed station at Barangaroo for the following reasons:**

**Operational problems:** The siting of the metro tunnel under part of the residences bounded by Dalgety Road, Towns Place and Hickson Roads is more than likely to produce ongoing unacceptable operational noise and vibration (see Chapter 11 Chatswood to Sydenham EIS). Despite the real risk of vibration and operational noise to residents of these buildings no effort is being made to mitigate the problem. At the very least the track should have high to very high attenuation and not standard. The buildings in question have 6 floors of underground carpark and consequently noise and vibration will echo through the hollow space. It is extraordinary such attenuation is not being contemplated for this section of track in the tunnel but is contemplated for track near Pitt Street and Martin Place.

**Construction Noise:** (See Chapter 10 of EIS). The construction proposals for the Barangaroo station will severely impact the quiet enjoyment of residents and businesses along Hickson Rd from central Barangaroo down to Towns Place. Residents and workers have had to put up with high noise levels during construction of Barangaroo Park. Construction and truck movements have been and continue to be disruptive. All construction and trucks should be placed on the Barangaroo central area where the proposed station is situated. Movement of trucks etc along Hickson Rd from the site to around Towns Place and Dalgety Rd should be extremely limited. Residents have had extremely bad experiences of trucks sitting outside on Hickson Rd and Towns Place idling at 4-5am in the morning while waiting to go on site. No amount of complaints made much difference.

Quiet enjoyment of our property is paramount and there is no thought being given to compensating residents. At the very least all construction should be kept as much as possible on the Barangaroo central area where there are no buildings.

**Barangaroo wrongly situated:** The proposed Barangaroo station is wrongly situated to achieve the objectives announced by the Premier (eg, reduce traffic at Wynyard and Martin Place and connect the old financial hub with the new at Barangaroo south and to ferry at Barangaroo south).

Number of commuters must go up at Martin Place since commuters will be able to go directly to it from the North Shore. As for Wynyard numbers, the numbers from the north may reduce as commuters can get off at Barangaroo instead of Wynyard and walk down. However, why would commuters change at Sydenham and go to Barangaroo and then walk back to the southern buildings when they can walk the same distance from Wynyard? This attitude will be pronounced in bad weather as the walk up Hickson Rd is open, while the walk from Wynyard is largely covered.

The Barangaroo station is also badly situated to encourage the high numbers expected to attend events in the new convention centres at the far southern end of the Barangaroo and

Darling Harbour complex to use the station and hence metro system. Town Hall and Wynward are much closer options to that end.

The idea of the station being important in connecting the two financial hubs is fanciful. Anyone near Martin Place wanting to go to the business hub at south Barangaroo is likely to walk down rather than get a train and walk up Hickson Rd. Similarly, why would anyone walk in the opposite direction to the Barangaroo station to get to Martin Place area when they can just walk up through Wydneyard? This will be exacerbated in bad weather (or indeed in hot weather).

### **Summary:**

While the proposed metro may be good infrastructure, the station at Barangaroo is nothing more than a political grab. It is wrongly situated to make the best use of Barangaroo south and Darling Harbor and its connection to the CBD. The operational noise and vibration has not been properly attenuated and the construction noise will severely impact residents and workers for years as it is presently proposed.