

27/06/2016

We are residents of Lord Street Newtown and we have concerns about the Sydney Metro tunnel that will be built under our street, the damage it may do to houses and infrastructure and the transparency from Sydney Metro for the works that they have planned.

- We are concerned that there may be damage to the houses in Lord Street as they are old, even those that have been renovated are on old footings.
- We are concerned that the extra vibrations from the tunneling and then the light rail trains will add stress to our old houses, especially when combined with the Bankstown line that runs down the side of the street.
- We are concerned for the water and sewerage pipes in the street as they are also very old. The water pipes over flow very quickly when it rains and so the extra vibrations may damage them even more.
- We are concerned that there has been no survey of the area to even see if it is suitable for a tunnel and a train line. There are a few houses in the street that have underground parking and they regularly pump water out of these spaces. There may be some kind of stream here that will not make this a suitable place for a tunnel and hurt the local environment.
- We are concerned about other problems that may arise, such as a tunnel collapse.
- We are concerned about property buy-outs and property value loses.
- We are concerned that a tunnel will be built under our street for a Metro Link that most likely will not be used by us or any of the other residents due to the location of the nearest Metro stations, especially as St Peters Railway Station will always be more convenient.
- We are concerned for the rumours that we will lose trains on the Bankstown line because of a Metro line that most local residents will not be able to easily access without the use of a car.

What we need to know to help us understand this project and lessen our concerns is:

- Will there be inspections on all houses in Lord Street both pre and post tunneling?
- If there is damage to houses is there mitigation plan that will fix any issues with the houses AND also the water and sewerage pipes.
- We would like to request extra inspections be completed on ALL houses in the street. The first to be just before the trains start, and then again 6 months and 12 months after it has been running. As mentioned above we are concerned about the extra vibrations doing damage to our houses and pipes due to the light rail AND the train line running so close to our houses.
- We would like to know if there are any plans to purchase houses in Lord Street and can we get a guarantees that our houses will not be bought from us for this project?

And lastly we are concerned that no-one from Sydney Metro has come to discuss this with the residents in the street to allay our fears about damage, property buyouts and property value losses. The tunnel was only discovered by a vigilant resident who read the entire EIS.

We did attend a community information session on the 28 May, and requested that someone come and chat directly with residents before the submission deadline but nothing has been done so far.

So we would like to know when will we find out more about the project and if there is a timetable that residents can subscribe to so we can be kept informed about the project and how it specifically applied to our street.

We want transparency from Sydney Metro.