

Submission to NSW Planning and Environment

Sydney Metro – Blue Point Temporary Retrieval Site

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Sunday 26th June 2016

1. [REDACTED] Blues Point Rd, McMahon's Point, NSW, 2060

2. Application to mitigate impact Blues Point

3. SS1 15_7400

4. Brief Statement of Objection:

I object to the proposal to excavate Blues Point Reserve for a Metro Retrieval Site on the following grounds:

- a. It is unnecessary;
- b. The loss of use and access to the park is a major impact;
- c. The use of trucks for removal of waste soil and delivery of cement will have significant impacts:
 - i. Traffic congestion;
 - ii. Noise and pollution from the trucks;
 - iii. Added danger to pedestrians;
 - iv. Loss of residents parking;
 - v. Damage to properties from the vibration of the road traffic
 - vi. Impact to local business from increased traffic
- d. The lack of alternate options proposed or considered:
 - i. Why not use a site on the rail line near Sawmillers Reserve and remove the waste by rail not trucks?
 - ii. Why not use barges to remove the waste by the harbour?
- e. The tunnel drilling will cause damage to properties;

I declare that I have made no reportable political donations in the previous 2 years!

[REDACTED]

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a) It is unnecessary:

The requirement for a site to remove the drill equipment is predicated on the assumption that two rather than one drill heads are required! Surely a single drill head that starts in Chatswood and finished at Barangaroo is going to provide a much simpler and efficient approach than having an additional drill head run from Barangaroo to Blues Point – only a distance of some 1,000 to 2,000 meters.

Please take a serious revision of whether a second drill head is required and whether the Blues Point Retrieval Site is required!

b) The loss of use and access to the park is a major impact;

Blues Point Reserve is a well-used public park and vista of Sydney Harbour used by residents and visitors/Tourists alike. The loss of access to this park will have an impact on the lives of residents.

c) The use of trucks for removal of waste soil and delivery of cement will have significant impacts:

The proposed use of trucks poses a very serious concern and a number of extremely serious impacts to the local community. The proposed “average” number of truck movements appears to be misleadingly low and the level of assessment of the impacts is incomplete. Below are the areas of impact that warrant proper and fair assessment.

i. Traffic congestion;

Blues Point Rd already suffers from traffic congestion now! The additional truck movements proposed will create a grid lock during residential operating hours – 7am to 9pm. The speed bollards form traffic choke points already on Blues Point Rd with a limited space for large trucks and buses to navigate.

ii. Noise and pollution from the trucks;

Trucks are extremely noisy and produce significant levels of exhaust pollution. The properties that line Blues Point Rd have a canyon like amplification of any road noise. The noise and pollution will have significant impacts on residents and workers in the areas around the site and the truck routes.

iii. Added danger to pedestrians;

McMahons Point is home to many elderly residents as well as young children. Both of these types of pedestrians will face a higher risk given the proposed number of truck movements and the increased traffic congestion caused.

iv. Loss of residents parking;

Parking is very difficult for many residents who must share a limited number of street parking spaces. The majority of residents do not have any off-street parking options. It is critical that any impact to residents parking is given serious consideration as well as finding alternative parking in the case of any removal of residents parking in Blues Point Rd and the greater McMahon's Point.

- v. Damage to properties from the vibration of the road traffic;

The truck movements will cause road based vibrations that pose a risk to residential properties. Many properties that line Blues Point Rd are very old and some like my own was built in the 1800's. These old properties use lime based mortar that is extremely susceptible to small levels of disturbance like road based vibrations. Properties on Blues Point Rd are less than 20 feet from the road and the roadways are narrow through traffic/speed management bollards.

- vi. Impact to local business from increased traffic.

The increased traffic congestion and impact from trucks will reduce the ability for shop customers to frequent the businesses. Having a procession of trucks run up and down Blues Point Rd will be a strong deterrent to Café customers.

d) The lack of alternate options proposed or considered:

- i. Why not use a site on the rail line near Sawmillers Reserve and remove the waste by rail not trucks?

There are some obvious alternates to Blues Point Reserve that would have a much less impact on the residents and the community but there is no reference to any alternatives being assessed. Having the retrieval site located at Sawmillers Reserve where there is rail access would solve many logistical, cost and community impact concerns.

e) The tunnel drilling will cause damage to properties;

Many properties that line Blues Point Rd are very old and some like my own was built in the 1800's. These old properties use lime based mortar that is extremely susceptible to small levels of disturbance like road based vibrations. What pre-work surveys are proposed? What damage impacts are projected? What levels of compensation will be made available? There are many questions and serious concerns regarding the likely property damage that will occur as a result of the drilling and truck movements.