

I've been a resident of Balgowlah and North Balgowlah since January 2000, who does not see any merit in the Northern Beaches Tunnel Proposal and strongly oppose it outright. A \$12Billion spend on building a tunnel which creates more problems than solutions, namely, severe health risk for not only adult residents with medical issues but young children as well and environmental destruction. More detailed response are as follows;

Pollution and Health Risks

I'm extremely disappointed that should the tunnel proceed the Transport for NSW ("TfNSW") are proposing to construct Unfiltered Exhaust Stacks. Why are they not filtered? To be advised that TfNSW believe they don't work, (proven effective in Europe and Asia) and too expensive, which I find truly offensive. What value do we put on people's health, the Children / Teenagers that attend Balgowlah Boys, Seaforth Primary and North Balgowlah Primary Schools. There are residents who suffer from asthma and emphysema, that are particularly concerned how their livelihood will be affected. There will be monumental change in how we go about living our day to day lives, sadly no more clean living.

As a minimum, the Stacks must be filtered, especially on the Balgowlah side, which is the lowest point of the proposed construction. Pollution will be horrendous, I simply cannot fathom the excuse, it is too costly.

Construction

All residents will be greatly affected, during the proposed 7year construction of the tunnel, (historically major infrastructure builds don't have the best track record on completion dates). There will be many years of noise, dust, disturbances to our normal way of life, a nightmare for all residents, especially the medically vulnerable. How do we commute, or walk around with a degree of certainty, with road and path closures as well as an excessive increase on construction vehicles removing rubble. These years will be the formative of not just my children, but all children across the affected area, as there are numerous schools within metres to the proposed construction sites.

Environmental Impact

The Balgowlah area alone, a destruction of 350+ trees, removal of the river and surrounding vegetation, which has been a local habitat for generations of animals, birds and aquatic life, will be destroyed there is no sugar coating, that will happen.

Not to mention the removal of 2,000 trees in the Wakehurst Parkway region, as lanes are widened. Normally the removal of trees on residential properties, especially, trees that have been around for decades, some over 100 years, take an insurmountable time to process the removal, usually permission is refused as the environmental impact, yet we propose the above.

Why the total disregard by TfNSW to the severe environmental impact, of Northern Beaches Residents affected by this Tunnel Proposed build?

Public Transport

It appears that Public Transport is not an option, the success of the B1 service is to be commended, passengers are impressed with this service. Yes, there may be more cars on the road, for now due to

Covid-19, clearly will decrease change during construction and upon completion the cost to use Tunnel on a daily basis. Local Bottlenecks will become common. Parking is already expensive in the City, surely we should discourage travelling by car to and from work in the CBD.

Covid-19 has changed the way Sydney residents conduct their employment, with more and more people working from home. I have numerous friends and work colleagues that have chosen to work from home.

This has the potential to become a white elephant, at a time where the States funds have been severely affected, due to the Global Pandemic, which is not going away, anytime soon. We can't even travel interstate with any degree of certainty. Surely the \$12 billion infrastructure build, is better spent in the other areas, in particular, in improving the Public School System and Hospitals .

I truly hope that the TfNSW, can see that Government Funding can be better spent on projects, that will improve the State, not in the destruction of the way we live and the environment.