

I wish to object to the Northern Beaches Harbour Tunnel.

The object of this tunnel in most people's minds is to cut down on traffic congestion and make their journey quicker. This will not be the case as every new highway, tunnel or road widening is quickly filled, and traffic snarls are equal to or worse than they were before, in a matter of a couple of years. These tunnels encourage people back into their cars, increasing traffic, and taking people away from public transport.

Additionally, the tunnel will be an excuse of providing new "infrastructure" to condone more and more development, (hence more people and more cars).

In an age when other civilised and beautiful cities all over the world are aiming for less highways and tunnels, more public transport and more open spaces our city continues to do the exact opposite - cramming in more and more expressways, more "chuck-it-up" ugly developments and more pollution. It's time our politicians and decision makers became people with a vision, not be continually falling back on old and out-dated ideas to solve problems.

Climate Change anyone?? This tunnel (with its 12 lanes entrance at Burnt Bridge Creek deviation) will be an ugly blot on the landscape. Smoke stacks with no filtration pumping unacceptable levels of pollution into the surrounding suburbs of Seaforth, Balgowlah, Manly Vale etc. will affect thousands of residents and many schools in the area.

Widening of Wakehurst Parkway and clearing of bush (including Duffy's

Forest vegetation - some of the rarest vegetation on the planet). will be another scar torn into Manly Warringah War Memorial Park (a unique living breathing war memorial - a place of quiet contemplation and the

lungs for the local community, as well as the only place in Sydney where it is safe to swim in fresh water - for now!!). This war memorial is facing death by a thousand cuts and this could be by far the worse.

The tunnel will be an unacceptable threat to many threatened species that are clinging on for life in this amazing War Memorial Park, including the eastern pygmy possum, red crowned toadlet, the 60 million year old Gondwanan relic - the Galaxia fish, and Rosenberg's goanna.

Land clearing of wildlife habitat is one of the key drivers of extinction with a projected 9 out of 10 animals to be displaced from their habitats by

2050. The Beaches Tunnel project, if it goes ahead, will be part of this catastrophe for nature.