

1 March 2021

Department of Planning, Industry and Environment
Major Project Assessments
Attn: Belinda Scott
SSI-8862 - Beaches Link and Gore Hill Freeway Connection

Our Ref: 2021/159710

Dear Belinda Scott,

Northern Beaches Council endorsed the submission provided in line with the resolution of Council below, at the ordinary meeting of Council on 23 February 2021.

The amendments listed below have been included the submission document but also listed below as part of the Resolution of Council.

Cr Grattan / Cr Bingham

That Council:

1. *Make the following amendments to the Council submission on the Beaches Link EIS (BL EIS):*

a. *P4 Strategic Context - add an additional reason and renumber:*

"1. To address the existing high levels of traffic congestion on the Northern Beaches with only three access points that are highly congested in both the AM and PM peaks, plus on weekends whilst contending with the impact of an opening bridge on one of the key access points - Spit Bridge."

b. *P12 request an independent advocate be engaged to act on the community's behalf and address any problems in a timely manner (eg 3AM noise complaints, stormwater run-off), to be located onsite and monitor compliance in real time.*

c. *P13 add references to:*

i. *other impacted local schools – North Balgowlah Public, St Cecilia's (Balgowlah) and St Kevin's (Manly Vale)*

ii. *local preschools and childcare centres.*

d. *p15 Operational Traffic and Transport. Add a new sentence after "a critical omission in the assessment."*

i. *"Council notes that traffic modelling is based on 2016 survey data and should be updated to account for differences in post-COVID19 working patterns and reductions in public transport patronage from both pandemic and bus timetable changes."*

- e. *p17 Balgowlah Portal surrounds:*
 - i. *strengthens the language in this section from “should” to “must”; “likely” to “will” and remove qualifiers such as “potential to”.*
 - ii. *the final sentence to read “the above projects MUST be introduced in conjunction with the project...”*
- f. *Address in the submission by raising a concern as to the impact of:*
 - i. *lights/lighting on Wakehurst Parkway on fauna during construction and operation*
 - ii. *loss of resident parking due to contractor/worker vehicles parking on local streets near worksites*
 - iii. *the lack of information regarding additional heavy vehicle movements along Sydney Road, Frenchs Forest Road through Seaforth Village, residential areas and past Seaforth Public School, including impacts as to noise, pedestrian safety and wellbeing of children*
 - iv. *Reinforce the importance of the vegetated land bridge (overpass) joining the Manly Warringah War Memorial State Park and the Garigal National Park to maintain flora and fauna connectivity and biodiversity of both areas.*
- g. *Consider in the section on Cumulative Impacts, the impact of simultaneous construction at both portals, and the WHT over the construction period. Suggest that to lessen traffic congestion and accessibility impacts these be considered for construction consecutively.*
- h. *Make identified minor grammatical/typographic changes such as removing first person references.*
 - i. *Confirm in the submission that Council continues to provide in-principle support to the Beaches Link tunnel Project, subject to minimising impacts on the community and environment.*
2. *Once amended, endorse the submission to the Beaches Link Environmental Impact Statement (Attachment 1) for submission to the NSW Department of Planning, Industry and Environment.*
3. *Write to the Hon. Andrew Constance MP, Minister for Transport and Roads advocating strongly for the amendments to the proposed design to further address the concerns of our community and also confirming Council’s continued in-principle support to the Beaches link Tunnel Project, subject to minimising impacts on the community and environment.*
4. *Write to the Hon. Robert Stokes MP, Minister for Planning and Public Spaces requesting an extension to the EIS submission deadline of 1 March until at least 1 April to enable the local community, in particular school communities, to digest, compile and submit a response to the EIS.*
5. *Place the Council submission to the BL EIS on “Your Say” to capture community feedback to Council’s submission and that this be used to inform Council of community concerns during future detailed design phases and other project related discussions with Transport for NSW. Note that this feedback will not be available for submission as part of the EIS process as the due date is currently 1 March 2021.*

VOTING

FOR: Cr White, Cr Daley, Cr Philpott, Cr Grattan, Cr Amon, Cr Heins, Cr McTaggart, Cr Bingham, Cr De Luca, Cr Ferguson, Cr Walton, Cr Sprott, Cr Harrison and Cr Regan

CARRIED

Should you require any further information or assistance in this matter, please contact my office on 8495 6808

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'P Devon', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Phil Devon
Manager Transport Network