

9a/2 Bowman Street
Pyrmont NSW 2009
joybells9@bigpond.com

23 September 2019

The Honourable Rob Stokes
Minister for Planning and Public Spaces
Parliament House
Macquarie Street
Sydney 2019

Dear Minister Stokes

RE: WESTCONNEX PROPOSED OVERPASS

I am writing to object to the potential WestConnex overpass at Rozelle.

I struggle to be told NOW that WestConnex is hoping to have this huge/enormous overpass/interchange constructed around The Crescent and City West Link. For the Department of Planning to consider approving this project is beyond comprehension. I would like to know why this 'modification' was not made public earlier? It is listed as a 'modification' from being underground in a tunnel to a huge overpass. This is hardly a 'modification'.

My objections are:

- This huge overpass will be an eyesore for many, many years ahead. It looks like downtown LA. The overpass that was to be an underpass.
- The very damaging visual impact this will have including the many many properties in Rozelle, Lilyfield and Balmain.
- Plans agreed to two years ago and formally approved last year sent The Crescent at Annandale in the City's Inner West underground. Now they want it to be a huge ugly overpass.
- It appears the road builders have been given carte blanche to amend or ignore conditions of consent.

- The Rozelle Interchange and tunnelling between Haberfield and St Peters haven't even been designed, or released, giving the soon to be privatised Sydney Motorway Corporation broad flexibility to build. I am concerned deals will aim to increase the sale price at community expense, such as commitments to underwrite tolls or not build public transport. How would the public know whether deals will aim to increase the sale price at community expenses, such as commitments to underwrite tolls or not build public transport?
- The project keeps expanding with impacts spreading including the loss of Moore Park land to widen roads to deal with cars coming off the St Peters interchange.
- The environmental cost for the community and the financial costs for future governments are astronomical.
- Residents fear surrounding suburbs will become congested rat runs under the potential changes.
- The removal of a path puts the safety of pedestrians and school children at risk. Pedestrians will have to cross at least 5 sets of lights to reach the foreshore and the light rail side of the road.
- NSW Government has allowed builders to steamroll communities and renege on plans throughout the construction of WestConnex.
- I feel betrayed by the NSW Government.

Yours faithfully

Joy Fairfull

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