

**Submission
No 260**

INQUIRY INTO IMPACT OF THE WESTCONNEX PROJECT

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I am a city planning student and westconnex is often discussed and researched in my degree. Not one transport planner has spoken favorably about this project. It is an absolute nightmare and gives city planning a bad name. Why is 17 billion being spent on a toll road to solve congestion? On top of this how is it at all legal that the government can build these disgusting ventilation stacks that will spew toxic unfiltered fumes into the air right next to primary schools and residences? No matter how many people protest and how many people in the city planning community point out this projects many flaws, it doesnt seem to matter. All the research points to the fact that it is not going to solve sydneys congestion problems. But all that seems to matter to the state government is that there are more toll roads in the city that it can sell off to companies like transurban. I dont even drive. How is my taxpayer money being used to benefit me in this project? Beyond that, how does the government justify spending 17 billion on a toll road in sydney to the people of newcastle? Or wollongong? How does it benefit them at all? I've lost faith in the democratic process. It just seems that parties like the LNP get elected into government after taking donations from companies like transurban and then do whatever they want them to do. No one is looking out for us. The state government is no longer a government for the people. It is a corrupt government for corporate Australia. Please stop this toxic project before it ruins this beautiful city!