

INQUIRY INTO IMPACT OF THE WESTCONNEX PROJECT

Organisation: BIKESydney
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Dear Committee

BIKESydney wishes to impress the following points in relation to items 1(f) and 1(j) of the Terms of Reference. We could be available to expand on these matters at hearing. We ask the Committee to consider that, like many other advocacy groups, we are requested to comment on many developments, and prioritise our presentations to where greatest change can be made.

- Westconnex has reliably under-delivered on the Active Transport (Walking and Cycling) elements on which its approval has been won
- Westconnex is prodigiously over-funded
- Westconnex is delivering relatively little social infrastructure compared to the cost and funding of the project - The public engagement on this project has been severely undermined, and with that, so has the public's faith in responding in good faith to project on exhibition
- There are key on-corridor cycling projects that Westconnex should and can reasonably provide. These include the City West Cycle Link (a game-changer for transport cycling in Sydney), The Greenway (presently only part-funded), the Airport Orbital (theOrbital.org), and grade-separated crossings of Parramatta Rd (at Pyrmont Bridge Road) and Anzac Pde (at Alison Rd/Dacey Ave) which would link Green Square (60,000 residents) into Centennial Park
- the benefit to cost ratio of these projects would very likely be higher than at least 1.0, and more likely, 2.5-6.0
- the relative cost of these cycling elements compared to the expenditure on Westconnex is minimal
- the construction of these cycling elements would be best achieved at time of construction of Westconnex, when suitable construction equipment, expertise and techniques are in play

Thank you
BIKESydney