



Naremburn  
Progress  
Association



20th November 2020

C/- The Secretary  
Willoughby South Progress Association  
wspassociation@hotmail.com

The Hon Rob Stokes MP  
Minister for Planning and Public Spaces  
52 Martin Place  
SYDNEY NSW 2000

Sent by Email

Dear Minister Stokes

RE: WESTERN HARBOUR TUNNEL AND WARRINGAH FREEWAY UPGRADE PROJECT ASSESSMENT

Naremburn, Willoughby South, Northbridge and Artarmon Progress Associations, as representative of residents and businesses along the southern edge of the Willoughby Local Government area provide the following short submission to reiterate our request for consideration of the following concerns regarding the Western Harbour Tunnel (WHT) and Warringah Freeway Upgrade (WFU).

In making your decision we would urge you to ensure the following issues are addressed:

1. The inclusion of plans for the provision of cycle and pedestrian pathways across the proposed Warringah Freeway upgrade providing safe and user-friendly links to the comprehensive active transport paths already existing in the surrounding Local Government areas of North Sydney and Willoughby.

Bike riding and walking have significantly increased during 2020 as residents and essential workers look for safe exercise options and alternatives to public transport. In some areas of Sydney, bike trips increased more than 50%. Given that cycling and walking have played such an important role during the COVID-19 lockdown, it is critical that future transport proposals incorporate infrastructure to support and encourage their use. Cycling and walking also generate no pollution, are resilient to congestion and power outages, and are accessible to people who cannot afford to own and run a car.

The provision of additional safe transport options for all ages and ability levels will assist with movement options locally, enhancing our neighbourhoods and the productivity of local centres. The construction of the WHT and WFU provides the ideal opportunity for concurrent improvements to infrastructure for active transport and should not be overlooked.

2. We are strongly of the view that the proposed loss of access for Sydney Harbour Tunnel traffic to the Miller St and Brook St exit ramps and the Brook St on-ramp be abandoned due to the severely detrimental impact this would have on the Willoughby Rd exit and the Reserve Rd exit and their surrounding areas.

These existing ramps act as important dispersal roads along the Warringah Freeway and assist with traffic flow to the arterial roads of Sailors Bay Rd, Eastern Valley Way and Penshurst St, thence through the Willoughby Local Government Area to the Upper North Shore and Roseville Bridge area.

Changes to these access points will lead to further congestion on Willoughby Rd and Reserve Rd, undesirable rat running, and traffic pattern changes leading to a loss of safety and amenity in our Local area. Further, with increased traffic on these two arterial roads, parking availability may be reduced due to the creation of quasi-permanent 'Clearways' severely impacting on the viability of local businesses along and near these roads.

We appreciate your focus as Planning Minister on the delivery of great places and the promotion of walking and cycling in that aim. In furthering that aim, your confirmation that these matters will be included in your decision on this major project is sought.

We look forward to your response.

Kind regards,



Roger Promnitz  
President  
Naremburn Progress Association



Linda Tully  
President  
Willoughby South Progress Association



Matt Judson  
President  
Northbridge Progress Association



Georgie Roussac  
President  
Artarmon Progress Association