



## The Palm Beach & Whale Beach Association Inc.

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Mr Phil Devon – Manager Transport Network

Northern Beaches Council

DEE WHY, NSW, 2107

### **Beaches Link/Gore Hill Freeway Connection Submission**

The Palm Beach & Whale Beach Association Inc represents the residents and businesses of a particularly beautiful part of the Northern Beaches LGA and it welcomes the opportunity to put forward its views on the Draft Local Housing Strategy. Amongst its objectives is to examine projects which will impact on the local amenity of the area.

There are two issues with the Council's draft submission on this matter. The first is that there is virtually no discussion about the impact of the Beaches Link on the area of the LGA north of Frenchs Forest. This could be considerable, ranging from re-routing of some public transport and a quicker route for some public transport to the City or beyond, increased ease of travel into the LGA by workers who live outside it, increased traffic over current levels on some key routes. The Beaches Link will also probably lead to increased pressure on the Council to provide more housing in the LGA which it will have to resist.

The second issue is that a significant opportunity to rectify one of the LGA's worst access problems is being missed. This refers to Wakehurst Parkway. Without doubt, there will be additional traffic along this road, to and from the portal. Some of it will only travel from the portal as far as Frenchs Forest Road but much car traffic will travel to and from Pittwater. All will be using the Link as a faster and less complicated route to the City and the Inner West and back – avoiding the Spit Bridge and Military Road. At present the stretch of Wakehurst Parkway from Narrabeen Lake to Warringah Road presents two significant problems – flooding and road blockage from breakdown or accident. There will never be a better opportunity to address these problems once and for all by widening Wakehurst Parkway from near Pittwater Road to the portal from two lanes to four lanes whilst at the same time carrying out the proposed drainage works. In addition to dealing with increased traffic volumes, the widening would also ensure safe and reliable access to Northern Beaches Hospital for Pittwater residents.

Thank you for the opportunity to put forward these views.

Yours faithfully

A/Prof Richard West AM

President

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