

Submission Cover Sheet

West Gate Tunnel Project IAC

Sub no:

112

Request to be heard?: Yes

Full Name: Elaine Carbines
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Affected property:
Attachment: 2017-097-let-Hon
Comments: G21's submission is attached as a file below.



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Ref: 2017-097-let-ECC

3rd July 2017

Hon Richard Wynne
Minister for Planning
Level 16
8 Nicholson Street
EAST MELBOURNE VIC 3002

Dear Minister,

RE: G21 SUBMISSION TO WEST GATE TUNNEL EES PROCESS

As CEO, I am pleased to make a submission on behalf of G21 - Geelong Region Alliance (G21) re the West Gate Tunnel Environment Effects Statement.

The G21 - Geelong Region Alliance was established in 2002 by five municipalities (Geelong, Queenscliffe, Surf Coast, Golden Plains and Colac Otway) with support of the Victorian Government and a wide range of local organisations. Membership now spans all three levels of government, non-government organisations, businesses and community groups.

Under the G21 - Geelong Region Alliance, we have brought together our region's leaders to develop a regional plan, determine regional priority projects and advocate for their implementation. We represent the voice of the G21 region and have a formal role as the Regional Strategic Planning Committee, in advising the State and Federal Governments on regional issues and priorities.

A key priority for G21 and the communities of our region is improving the transport links to Melbourne, both road and rail.

Road access to Melbourne from the G21 region is severely constrained by the limitations of the current Princes Highway - West Gate Freeway and the West Gate Bridge.

Melbourne is an important destination for our residents, commuters and for the freight distribution of our region's products.

Peak hour travel to and from Melbourne is especially affected by the congestion experienced on the current road system and bridge.

It is commonplace for a peak hour journey to Melbourne from Geelong to take in excess of two hours for the 80 km distance.

The productivity of our region and the work life balance of our commuting residents is therefore seriously compromised by the outdated, inefficient road and bridge network.

G21 welcomed the announcement by the Victorian Government of its support for the West Gate Tunnel project and is pleased to have the opportunity to respond to its Environment Effects Statement.



*G21 is the formal alliance of government, business and community organisations,
working together to improve people's lives in the Geelong region.*



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The G21 Board received a detailed briefing re the West Gate Tunnel project at its April meeting and resolved to give in principle support to the project dependent on it securing all the necessary planning approvals.

Since then however, Infrastructure Victoria has released its advice to the Victorian Government regarding the location of a future container port for Melbourne, citing Bay West as its preferred location.

Access and egress to and from a possible future container port at Bay West must be planned for and the G21 Board seeks confirmation that the West Gate Tunnel would contribute substantially to its transport links should the Victorian Government accept Infrastructure Victoria's advice.

Thank you for this opportunity to contribute to the submission process for the West Gate Tunnel Environment Effects Statement for the West Gate Tunnel.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Elaine C. Carbines'.

Elaine Carbines
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER



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