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LIBS FAIL TO DELIVER ON SYDNEY GATEWAY PROMISE: COST OF ROAD TRIPLES AND FAILS TO GO TO THE PORT

The Berejiklian Liberal Government has delivered a recipe for traffic mayhem around Sydney's Airport because of its failure to deliver its giant WestConnex toll road all the way to Port Botany.

Under the Liberals' original plan WestConnex was to take trucks and cars away from the city and to the airport and the port via a road called the Sydney Gateway.

Today's announcement that the Liberal State Government has struck a deal with the Sydney Airport Corporation to build the road stops a long way short of that – just over six kilometres short in fact.

Sydney Gateway will terminate at the end of O'Riordan Street, Mascot not at the Port Botany container terminal six kilometres away, as promised, meaning tens of thousands of trucks and cars will spew out into the suburb's surrounding roads every day.

On top of this the hit to the taxpayer is considerable; the cost of Sydney Gateway has tripled to reach up to \$2.6 billion. This means that the original \$10.6 billion cost of WestConnex has doubled almost \$20 billion.

Meanwhile motorists on the widened M4 are paying more than \$2,000 a year in tolls for a \$500 million widening program that will be paid off in under two years.

As always, it is the Sydney motorist that pays the price for the Berejiklian Liberal Government's failures on transport infrastructure.

Quotes attributable to NSW Opposition Leader Luke Foley

"In 2011 the Liberals promised a road that would take all the trucks to Port Botany, but now in its eighth year it still can't deliver on that.

"Seven and a half years and \$20 billion later and their key infrastructure project comes up six kilometres short; it is an absolute farce.

"All their plan will do is dump thousands of trucks into the surrounding roads at the doorstep of the Sydney Airport. This is a recipe for gridlock in the area."

Quotes attributable to Shadow Minister for Roads Jodi McKay

"Their Sydney Gateway tells you everything that they need to know about this Government's record on infrastructure – waste and mismanagement.

"The cost always blows out and the Sydney motorist always pays."