

'Compensate North Sydney community': Mayor's hit list of demands for Premier

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PREMIER Gladys Berejiklian is set to cop a stack of demands to "properly compensate" the North Sydney community over the government's planned Beaches Link tunnel works from later this year.

North Sydney Mayor Jilly Gibson and fellow councillor Kathy Brodie will meet with Ms Berejiklian on Friday when the "hit list" is made pretty in pink to highlight the ugly tunnel truth for suburbs like Cammeray and Artarmon, where smoke stacks will affect schools and parks.

"We're actually going to take along a big piece of art paper and with a pink pen I'll be drawing up a list of demands," Cr Gibson said.

"Top of the list surrounds the stacks and that the Premier recognises the angst in the community and filters them.

"We want reassurance at the meeting that the stacks will be filtered."

She said she would be calling for "compensation for the extensive and extended disruption in the community from the tunnel works".

"We want additional open space, and towards that end we demand that as part of the Metro project that Miller St is fully or partially closed between Berry St and the highway," Cr Gibson said.

"The aim here is to create a boulevard outside the new Metro station at Victoria Cross. When the tunnel works start, Berry St will have to take extra traffic to go onto the tunnel going northbound.



The 40-storey commercial building above the new Victoria Cross Metro Station will be a feature of the North Sydney CBD.

"We would like the Premier to give full consideration to sending that traffic underground along Berry St, which would return Berry St to a quiet local road.

"So the result of that would be Berry St narrowed to two lanes to just serve local traffic and create the boulevard effect."

The centre of a push for more "open space" will be a "skypark" over the Victoria Cross Metro Station development where the rooftop would be for the public and have a high-speed lift to it from Miller St.

“A building like this has just been completed in London, and we need to be exploring these futuristic ideas,” Cr Gibson said.

“There would be some of the most extraordinary views of anywhere in Sydney, looking at the Opera House and Harbour Bridge.

“There’d be massive glass balustrades to protect against the wind. But we can create open space up there with grass, trees and gardens for the public.

“The community needs to be properly compensated for all the disruption caused by tunnel and Metro works.”

She said she would also be asking for more community space to be created around the Berrys Bay foreshore.