

# LONDONERS!

## STOP OUR CITY'S TOXIC SILVERTOWN TUNNEL

The Silvertown Tunnel is a planned £2bn four-lane Thames road crossing from Greenwich Peninsula north-east to Silvertown.



**EXCESSIVE COSTS**



**AIR & NOISE POLLUTION**



**TRAFFIC CONGESTION**

The tunnel will be wider-bore than the existing Blackwall Tunnel, allowing larger Heavy Goods Vehicles (HGVs). The RiverLinx consortium chosen to build the tunnel will recover the cost by tolling both Blackwall and Silvertown Tunnels.

It's been revealed that **the cost of the proposed Silvertown Tunnel has now DOUBLED**, from £1 billion to a staggering £2 billion. That's the cost of making London's bus fleet electric or even four flagship hospitals. The Tunnel doesn't make environmental sense and **it doesn't make financial sense.**

Contracts were signed last November, despite a cross-party campaign to try to persuade London Mayor Sadiq Khan to stop the project. **Construction is due to start any time now and will last six years:** noisy, polluting and carbon intensive.

Once the tunnel is built, HGVs and other traffic will use existing approach roads, causing **yet more congestion and air pollution near local schools** and homes already suffering dirty air. HGV logistics centres are planned near the tunnel mouths on both sides of the river.

**This outdated project has no place in a time of climate emergency and growing evidence of the dangers of traffic air pollution.** The Tunnel is opposed by the adjacent boroughs of Lewisham, Southwark, Newham, Hackney and some Greenwich councillors. It is also opposed by top environmental health, transport and climate policy experts, air quality campaigners, active travel NGOs, Extinction Rebellion climate activists, politicians from all parties across E & SE London, local residents & headteachers, and cycle logistics companies.

The decision to allow Transport for London to move forward was **Mayor Sadiq Khan's alone.** He was told that TfL made serious mistakes in their evaluation of options. And that the project had not been re-assessed in light of (a) the carbon emissions reductions that London must make to share in preventing climate breakdown; (b) recent findings on serious health impacts of air pollution including harmful particulates from "zero emission" vehicles.

# WE DEMAND:

## 1. Cancellation of the tunnel

Cancellation of the Silvertown Tunnel Project. The scheme will lock E & SE London into high levels of heavy motor traffic, air pollution and carbon emissions for decades, and make already illegal air quality worse for many.

## 2. Smarter tax systems

Implementation as soon as possible of **London-wide distance-based smart road pricing**, a progressive tax on driving to balance local congestion and pollution, carbon reduction, and social justice goals.

## 3. Investment in alternatives

Large scale **investment in quality, reach and frequency of public transport**, walking & cycling infrastructure in East & South East London (e.g. DLR extension south to Eltham and east to Thamesmead; commuter ferries; buses; cycle routes and hire).

## How you can help stop the Tunnel:

**Email London's politicians** who support and are responsible for the Silvertown Tunnel. Ask them to pause the project and commission an independent review. Given the court decision against Heathrow's third runway, how can they proceed? How is the Tunnel compatible with their claimed support for climate action and clean air? Why have they given in to big business against the interests of deprived areas of London?

Sadiq Khan, Mayor of London:  
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Heidi Alexander, Deputy Mayor:  
[heidi.alexander@london.gov.uk](mailto:heidi.alexander@london.gov.uk)

Len Duvall, London Assembly rep. for Greenwich & Lewisham, and leader of the LA's Labour Group:  
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## Who are we?

Stop The Silvertown Tunnel Coalition is a cross party group of concerned residents, teachers, climate activists and clean air campaigners.

Follow [@silvertowntn](https://twitter.com/silvertowntn) for campaign news; join us at lobbying meetings and actions.