

**Submission
No 51**

**INQUIRY INTO WINDSOR BRIDGE REPLACEMENT
PROJECT**

Name: Mrs Jenny Fraser

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Submission

To: Portfolio Committee No 5- Industry and Transport

Inquiry into the Windsor Bridge replacement project

Submitted by:

Jenny Fraser

6.1.18

Background

As a resident of the Hawkesbury who uses Windsor Bridge daily, I am becoming increasingly concerned about the increasing volumes of traffic forced to use Windsor Bridge as well as the lengthy delays that are suffered by residents and through traffic alike. I am concerned about the negative impacts on heritage that the replacement bridge would impose on Thompson Square and the destruction of the square and its environs.

Issues

- Lack of traffic benefits with replacement bridge
- Heritage preservation

Comment on Issues

Lack of Traffic benefits with replacement bridge

The need for a bypass is blatantly apparent. Currently up to 3000 heavy vehicles, (CAWB 2017 traffic survey) an increase of 100% since 2012, cross Windsor Bridge every day as well as many, many cars. A bypass will alleviate the congestion, noise pollution, the air pollution and safety concerns regarding the heavy traffic on Windsor Bridge. *“An alternative route around Windsor may be considered depending on growth in traffic numbers and local congestion.”* RMS, 2013.

The current plan for the Windsor Bridge replacement will not alleviate or solve any traffic problems, indeed it will only worsen and aggravate the situation.

A bypass will solve these problems as well as the retention of Thompson Square in its entirety.

Heritage Preservation

Thompson Square will be destroyed by the Windsor replacement bridge. The Square is the oldest Public Square in Australia and it is imperative that it is saved for future generations. Its value is priceless to our nation and irreplaceable.

The current archaeological works that are being carried out are, in my opinion, nothing short of wanton destruction. The rare and valuable artefacts, both Aboriginal and European, that are being destroyed by the large machines evident in the compound will ensure that our heritage is and will be destroyed forever.

Conclusion

Windsor Bridge replacement project is an act of vandalism and a disgrace to the current government. There has been little or no discussion with or explanations to the local community regarding the need for this ill-conceived and destructive idea.

The building of a bypass in many towns in New South Wales has been well thought out and executed, allowing the residents of these towns "to have their town back!" Premier Gladys Berejiklian.

Windsor deserves and needs a bypass to be built. The traffic problems will not be solved by the RMS's current plan and the malevolent destruction of irreplaceable historical artefacts is abhorrent.

Recommendations

It is recommended that the following occur immediately:

- The Windsor Bridge replacement project stop,
- The archaeological works cease
- RMS build a Windsor bypass post-haste.

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