

**Submission  
No 41**

## **INQUIRY INTO WINDSOR BRIDGE REPLACEMENT PROJECT**

**Name:** Ms Cherelle Lewis  
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"I wish to submit that the Windsor Bridge replacement program proposed by Roads & Maritime Services is without merit and unacceptable on three major grounds:

1. The replacement bridge would be inadequate both to present and the anticipated needs of road traffic through Windsor and across the Hawkesbury River.
2. The destruction of the current bridge would violate the intent of NSW environmental law to protect and preserve historical transport infrastructure.
3. The construction of the approaches to a new bridge would destroy high value archaeological remains, colonial and indigenous, and seriously compromise other heritage associated with Thompson's Square, which includes some of the earliest buildings of the colonial era.

All of the issues mentioned above have been amply researched and investigated by concerned experts with high standing in their various fields. Their negative findings in relation to the bridge destruction plan are virtually unanimous.

The NSW Government, in the face of demonstrated deep and wide public objection, has made no case that justifies supporting the destruction of Windsor Bridge and Thompson's Square over a traffic bypass, originally proposed as an acceptable alternative. The selection of 'Option One' by RMS directly contradicts findings and recommendations of its own departmental officers.

I have been involved in the campaign to stop the RMS vandalism of Thompson's Square and Windsor Bridge since its inception. I care deeply about the heritage rights of following generations of Australians, including my own grandchildren whose forebears were Hawkesbury settlers. They must be allowed to inherit custodianship from the people who went before them.

I submit that a country that seeks to destroy its own history is a country without a soul."

Kind regards  
Cherelle Lewis