

**Submission
No 66**

**INQUIRY INTO WINDSOR BRIDGE REPLACEMENT
PROJECT**

Name: Mr Michael Eggleton

Date received: 14 January 2018

I wish to submit my opposition to the Windsor Bridge Replacement Project Option #1 proposed by the current NSW State government.

- 1) Option #1, in my opinion, was always the preferred option by the RMS.
The other eight (8) presented no sensible long term solution addressing issues re current crossing. The Jim Anderson Bridge constructed some years ago by the RMS as a high level across McGraths Hill creek flats is a example of bad planning. Access off Windsor Rd via Groves Ave??
- 2) RMS believe traffic wise Option #1 will be obsolete shortly after construction.
With current heavy truck numbers at about 2,500 per day increasing to approx 5 to 6 thousand within 5 years due to sand/gravel haulage from north of existing crossing. The existing Windsor bridge currently has no load limits and presents no safety issues. Some maintenance is required. Little being carried out in its 140+ years existence.
- 3) The noise and pollution being already generated through this historic and extremely important site of Australia's colonial and aboriginal heritage will be increased 100 times with this monolithic structure being rammed through the oldest existing public square nationally..... established by Gov Macquarie in 1811 representing the birthplace of "A Fair Go" being named after an emancipated convict Andrew Thompson.
- 4) Flood immunity will not be improved as the underside of the proposed new bridge will be no higher than the deck of the existing bridge. Also, feeder roads will still be subjected existing flood situations.
- 5) The project assessment process is dramatically flawed. Previous governments had decided not to proceed with the project because of the destruction to heritage and little or nothing achieved re improved traffic flow through Windsor. I believe the current State Minister for Finance Dominic Perrottet has said that the project (funding wise) is open ended!! This beggars belief as a bypass around Windsor and the refurbishment of the existing bridge has been shown to be more cost effective.

Having had descendants arrive on the First Fleet, relatives who have farmed and myself having lived in the Hawkesbury district for some 45 years I am extremely passionate about Windsor and its historical connection to our colonial past.

When I see the destruction that this vandalism by our so called representatives the State Government will cause I am saddened particularly when there is an option to bypass the town of Windsor. Removing congestion, noise and heavy vehicles injecting new life and vigour into a dying town for tourism to flourish.

Economically it makes sense;