

**INQUIRY INTO WINDSOR BRIDGE REPLACEMENT
PROJECT**

Name: Mr Glenn Watkins

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I object to this project because, as acknowledged by Government experts, it will have catastrophic and irreversible impacts on the Heritage significance, tourism potential and public amenity of the oldest Town Square in Australia, originally planned by Governor Macquarie in 1811. This proposed project lacks appreciation of the historical significance of the town of Windsor and the economic destruction this project would cause by compromising its tourist potential.

Despite expert and community opposition to this project, and clear evidence of the long term economic benefits of historic precincts like Windsor's for income and employment growth, the New South Wales Government has continued with a plan which would permanently force industrial vehicles through historic residential, recreational and retail urban precincts. The main new approach road to the proposed new bridge would run along one side of the historic town square, permanently introducing heavy traffic to the square and hence destroying its ambience and character.

The project provides no long term traffic benefits with the forecast level of service of the relevant intersections being equal to the current standard. The required speed limit of 60 km/h is not even provided, and the afternoon peak period traffic (the worst affected period in the current configuration) performs worse than it already does with the existing network limitations.

The planned project provides an absolute minimum in improving the flood immunity but fails to provide the 1 in 5 level that was part of the project approval guidelines. The proposed increase from 1 in 2 to just under 1 in 3 is a futile investment to say the least.

The level of community opposition to this project is plain to see, with thousands of letters and signatures presented to the government. It's about time someone stopped, listened and responded by ditching this proposal and looking for a better alternative. The community wants a bypass, the through traffic wants a bypass, and I'm pretty certain the trucks want a bypass too.

Bypass Windsor and Save Thompson Square.