

**INQUIRY INTO WINDSOR BRIDGE REPLACEMENT  
PROJECT**

**Name:** Mr Anthony Miller

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The Director,  
Portfolio Committee No. 5,  
Parliament House,  
Macquarie Street, Sydney NSW 2000.

Dear Director,

Submission to the Inquiry into the Windsor Bridge replacement project

I appreciate the opportunity to provide some of my thoughts on the project in question, please find my submission below.

I am a relative newcomer to the Hawkesbury having only moved to the area less than 10 years ago. We were fortunate enough to occupy one of the heritage properties in the North Street corridor not far from the proposed works.

I am opposed to the continuation of the project as proposed and would like to see the scope amended to include the provision of a bypass for the Hawkesbury residents and the existing Heritage listed bridge repaired for local light traffic and pedestrian use.

Living on the route, I experience first-hand the traffic bottleneck each day and cannot see how the proposed plan will address this issue in any meaningful way. The position of the bridge provides no mitigation during flood events (given approach roads on both sides remains as is) and will not cater for the increased population growth forecast for lands beyond the river. RMS modelling during the evaluation process seemed to confirm this well in advance yet the project marched on regardless. Interesting evidence on the positive impact the bypasses of both Berrima and Mittagong resulting from reduced heavy vehicle traffic and improved tourism outcomes is demonstrated in case study commissioned by the Bureau of Transport and Communications Economics ([https://bitre.gov.au/publications/1994/files/wp\\_011.pdf](https://bitre.gov.au/publications/1994/files/wp_011.pdf)). It is the view of a large sector of the local community that similar benefits could also be enjoyed in Windsor should a similar investment occur.

As I am sure you are already aware Windsor is of significant heritage importance not just the local Hawkesbury residents but broader community. Scores of visitors descend on Windsor during weekends and public holidays to enjoy the ambient space and escape from their normal surroundings. It is evident from the recent discovery of items of significance, including convict era barrel drains, there remains significant potential for further artefacts of national importance to be un-earthed. The Rocks in Sydney is a prized area, loved by scores of local and International visitors, it is a pity that our local heritage from the same period seems to be disregarded and somehow considered to be of less value.

Thompson Square and the existing Windsor Bridge have already suffered from years of under investment in maintenance and repair; a bypass would enable this place of significance to begin to regenerate and provide further enjoyment to current and future generations.

Please hear the voices of the local community who need to live with the residual outcome of this process. The Portfolio Committee have the opportunity to change the future of this project, let's not miss this opportunity.

Thank you in advance from reviewing my submission,

Kind Regards

Anthony Miller