

**INQUIRY INTO WINDSOR BRIDGE REPLACEMENT
PROJECT**

Name: Name suppressed
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Partially
Confidential

24 January 2018

I am writing in regard to the parliamentary enquiry investigating the proposed replacement of the existing bridge over the Hawkesbury River at Windsor.

As you may be aware Thompson Square is the oldest intact Square in Australia and the proposed replacement bridge will visually impact on the Square due to the size and type of construction to be used. A high modern concrete structure will dominate this area and will inhibit access to some of the historic buildings surrounding the Square not to mention the damage they will suffer due to the volume of traffic passing through.

The RMS clearly states "Windsor Bridge is the oldest existing structure still in use for crossing the Hawkesbury River and is considered to be a rare item listed on the Sec 170 NSW State Agency register relating to its initial construction, subsequent modifications and survival."

The proposed new bridge will not deliver any relief from traffic congestion as it was originally a two lane bridge replacing a two lane bridge. This has now been modified to have two lanes heading to Sydney and one lane travelling in the other direction.

There are alternatives which should be investigated. Retain the existing bridge and provide an alternative crossing of the Hawkesbury River with a By-Pass, this will provide flood free access as well as an effective solution to the traffic situation and deliver the solution we all need.

The view from Thompson Square will be retained, life will be given back to Windsor so those coming to visit the historic town can enjoy it without having to be subjected to the insufferable noise from the heavy traffic passing through.

Please act for the residents of the Hawkesbury:

- Renovate the current bridge and plan for a By-Pass.
- Stop the destruction of the heritage of Thompson Square.
- Consider the advice of the Heritage expert selected by the Dept of Planning to review the Environmental Impact Statement.
- Restore Windsor Bridge – with minimal renovations it can last a further 50 years.

It is imperative the Committee convince the Government this is a poor decision, one lacking in foresight and will most definitely not deliver any positive outcomes.

Governor Lachlan Macquarie was a visionary, lets hope someone in the Government can be just as visionary.

Yours faithfully