

INQUIRY INTO WINDSOR BRIDGE REPLACEMENT PROJECT

Name: Ms Debra Cotter

Date received: 28 January 2018

Windsor Bridge Replacement Project- submission to Inquiry Committee.

I object strongly to the current plans and demolition of Windsor bridge

Reasons for Justification AGAINST DEMOLITION ;

1. Windsor Bridge is one of the oldest in Australia, and is still in good health, it carries approximately over 2,500 trucks a day (which RMS would not allow if it wasn't fit to carry the traffic). Windsor bridge is state significant structure that is rare and has significant structure that is RARE in historical and technical significance .

Windsor Bridge should be preserved for local traffic and tourist attraction.

2. Expenditure: The proposed 'New bridge budget has blown out' and even though the change of plan, from 2 lane to 3 lane bridge will not support the traffic needs currently and beyond 2020, bottle neck will just be a little further along the road, there will be no improvement to traffic flow nor stop the ever increasing flow of semi trailers through the heart of historic Hawkesbury township.

A BYPASS is what is required to meet traffic conditions and commuters needs, whilst maintaining the historic Windsor Bridge and Thompson Square for local traffic and pedestrian access.

2. Thompson Square- the OLDEST continuing used public Square in Australia.

From a well documented heritage conservation perspective (and recent discovery of the Barrel Drains- also smugglers tunnel) the most appropriate and respectful treatment of Thompson Square (and the Windsor Bridge) is to stop/ avoid any further negative impacts and to take the Opportunity to remove and cease the through fare traffic .

As the significance of the archaeological resources within the 'project area' and in particular within Thompson Square and down to the river would be diminished by the project, the best outcome is that this resource remains intact.

Additionally I find it abhorrent that the Heritage listing for Thompson Square had been removed by the government, for the project (destruction) to take place and when desecration taken place government plans to reinstate the heritage listing * as advised by premier Gladys Berejiklian at the Windsor Library on 1st November 2017, whilst she visited to unavailing a portrait of herself !

Recommendation

A Bypass, to effectively manage traffic flow and preservation of historically significant area, rather than destruction .

I believe the only alternative is a bypass ... And sand mining up stream of the Windsor Bridge in the future, not be the overriding plan allowing destruction of the beautiful Historic Hawkesbury.

I hope the submissions will be considered through the inquiry & that the Government will re-evaluate the opportunity here to preserve rather than destruction of the Hawkesbury and our Historical gem, The heart of the Hawkesbury.

Yours Sincerely

Debra Cotter.

4th Generation Hawkesbury resident