INQUIRY INTO WINDSOR BRIDGE REPLACEMENT PROJECT

Name:Name suppressedDate received:28 January 2018



The Director, Parliament House, Macquarie Street, Sydney NSW 2000.

Portfolio Committee No.5 – Industry And Transport Inquiry into the Windsor Bridge replacement project

Submitted by

Dear Director, Re: Inquiry into the Windsor Bridge replacement project

Please accept this correspondence as a submission to the Windsor Bridge Inquiry.

In making our submission we wish to register our opposition and objections to the Government's proposal to build a bridge 35m downstream of the existing historic Windsor Bridge and instead build a bypass which will ultimately save our most historic and precious Thompson Square and alleviate our Windsor's traffic nightmare.

We have lived at our current address in Wilberforce for 40 years come this September so feel well qualified to pass comment. Our children and grandchildren have all been born in that time and there have been many days that we have driven over the Windsor Bridge up to 10 times a day with us both going to work and then to our children's sporting training, medical appointments and shopping etc...

As well as us using the bridge still almost daily, two of our children and their respective partners still live and work in the area and use the bridge several times daily also . . .

We are writing this because we LOVE the Hawkesbury – we moved here because of the amazing number of heritage buildings and the wonderful old charm and "feel" of history in the area – something we most certainly do not want to see destroyed by placing a monstrous bridge with all it entails, through Thompson Square – the piece de resistance of our very special and unique town.

We are not used to writing this type of correspondence but feel so very strongly that by not doing so and having our say, we will see this amazing and historic Australian township ruined for generations to come . . .

Having travelled through the Square for those 40 years we can see what is blatantly obvious – a new bridge will do absolutely NOTHING to alleviate the traffic problems that we sit in when passing through Windsor – what is needed is most definitely a BYPASS – and the quicker the better !!!

Keep our historic bridge for local and tourist traffic and other through traffic will use the bypass. Up to three thousand trucks cross Windsor Bridge every day (CAWB 2017 traffic survey) – that is a HUGE number passing through town – our local truck driver friends have all been supportive of a bypass and the Government's own Heritage Council of NSW has previously opposed the project due to its impact on the significant heritage of Thompson Square and the history of our town of Windsor. Many other regional towns have bypasses and we just cannot understand why Windsor cannot have the same – therefore alleviating the traffic problems and preserving our amazing historic Thompson Square and all the beautiful historic buildings included in the Square . . .

History lives in the Hawkesbury and locals, school children, scholars and tourists should be allowed to continue to see this unique part of our country as it is now . . . In our opinion a new bridge would distract significantly from the wonderful heritage township . . . a bypass however would alleviate the daily traffic congestion – and we do mean congestion - sometimes it can take almost half an hour to cross the McGrath's Hill flats – a drive that would normally take under 2 minutes easily. It is the same coming into Windsor from Penrith – 20 minutes to drive just 500 metres on some afternoons – a truly ridiculous situation . . .

The Government's own Heritage Council of NSW has previously opposed the project due to its impact on the significant heritage of Thompson Square and the history of the town of Windsor and the suggestion the project is justified because it will improve flood immunity is disproved by the RMS's own documentation. As local residents who have been through many floods we wonder how on earth a new bridge will help when the road to Wilberforce is covered with water !!!

We would also comment on the many artefacts left by both Aboriginals and Early Settlers in Thompson Square – the current destruction of these using heavy machinery is a total disgrace and should be halted immediately – anywhere else in the World and these treasures would be being saved, not smashed as is currently happening on a daily basis . . . IT MUST STOP !!!

What we have in Windsor is so very unique – we don't want to see it destroyed for a moment longer – the powers that be should hang their heads in shame for letting this go ahead as it is now . . .

PLEASE help us save our Square and let us have our much needed and fought for bypass – we commend CAWB for the amazing work it and its Committee and Members have done and continue to do on a daily basis – 24/7 for nearly 5 years – over 40,000 petitions signed – and yet the local Member and Premier will not even meet with them . . .

The people have spoken, it's well and truly time that they, the people who use this Square daily, are finally listened to !!!

We thank you sincerely for reading our comments . . . and hope they are listened to and taken on board so we can get our much needed bypass and save our Square from any further damage asap . . .

The accompanying photos were taken recently at the roundabout in Thompson Square – the Square where our current Prime Minister's family is mentioned on the Memorial . . .





	*PERKINS, S.		1805	CRIBB, J.
	TEBBUTT, J.		1806	
1802	ARTHUR, A.			WOODBURY, R.
	DEMPSEY, J.	·	1807	
	HALL, G.			GAUDRY, W.
al sal	HOWE, J.			HARTLEY, D.
	JOHNSTON, A.			McKENZIE, J.
-	JONES, T.			SIMPSON; A.
- 10.0	JURD, D.		1808	CARPENTER, T.
	MEIN, J.		1000	DUFF, P.
12122	MOORE, T.			HEARNE, J.
	STERNBECK, C.			SUNDERLAND, J.
			1810	FLOYD, J.
and the second	STUBBS, W.			HOWARD, T.
	TUCKERMAN, S.			RICHARDS, J.
	TURNBULL, J.		1811	
1808	BARNES, R.		1011	WOOD, J. D.
no in	DOYLE, A			

