

INQUIRY INTO WINDSOR BRIDGE REPLACEMENT PROJECT

Name: Name suppressed

Date received: 28 January 2018

Partially
Confidential

Firstly, we shouldn't have to be writing submissions for this. The current Windsor Bridge project is nonsensical.

I am 91 and have resided in North Richmond for over 20 years, after living on the North Shore for my working life and growing up on the Dairy Farm of my serviceman father in Wiseman's Ferry.

The wanton destruction that is currently occurring in Thompson's Square is diabolical. The heritage that is under the earth that bulldozers are tearing apart is invaluable history to both Colonial and Aboriginal heritage. Witnesses have photographed and recorded careless and reckless archeology. The fact that it is heavily screened from public eyes is a great worry. What are they trying to hide?

Have you been to Europe? From East to West, historical buildings and archeological sites are revered and taken great care of but most importantly, open for the public to view. Why? Because there is an enormous amount of interest generated by a dig site. What spectacles and treasures will be uncovered? But the greatest reason for keeping historical sights? Tourism. Windsor and Thompson Square is FULL to the brim of colonial history. Something that is shamefully disappearing from Australia. The current historical site is to have concrete pylons put in place. Australia cannot afford to lose such a site. On the 7th December 2017 the Brick Barrel drains were uncovered, these were commissioned by then Governor Lachlan Macquarie and are dated around 1814. This important site predates Port Arthur and any other tourism site in Tasmania by at least 15 years. THIS IS OF MASSIVE HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE to Sydney!

And what is to be built there is also nonsensical. Why build a bridge that will not ease traffic? Why replace a fantastically operable roundabout at Thompson's Square with a set of traffic lights that, as has been proven around the world, only slows traffic. Traffic lights in that position just does not make sense. The majority of locals DO NOT WANT THIS BRIDGE! A bypass is what Windsor desperately requires and deserves. A count of over 5000 B-double trucks has been made on one day alone. The vibrations from these trucks are causing disturbance in the surrounding historical buildings and more will see their slow destruction. Another reason for a bypass? Recently in one week a truck and a work utility broke down on the bridge and the incline into Windsor, holding up traffic. If a bypass were in place the Windsor Bridge will be reserved for locals, the trucks will use a faster, safer route around Windsor, which is what they desperately want. Yes, truck drivers are against "Option 1" too.

Please, we the people of the Hawkesbury are desperately seeking for Option 1 to be withdrawn.

(Many residents are unaware of this request for submissions on this topic, I am one, only being told today on the day that submissions are due.)