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Department of Planning

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Scanning Room

CL:gp

21st November 2012

Director Infrastructure Projects Department of Planning and Infrastructure GPO Box 39 SYDNEY NSW 2001

Dear Sir

RE: Thompson Square, Windsor, NSW

Since at least the late 1950s, in the English speaking world, it has not been the done thing to push major roads through historic towns. If one visits the United Kingdom and even Tasmania just about every historic town has now been bypassed and the traffic does not go through the town.

Generally buildings built before the middle years of the 19th century are very vulnerable to things like vibration and of course if major truck accidents take place they act like packs of cards. Such would be the fate of any of the buildings lining the route through Thompson Square.

I can but mention the noise such traffic brings, making the square a disagreeable place to be, not to mention living or working around it. This also probably means the historic buildings become redundant, unable to find a compatible use etc. etc.

Windsor is perhaps the nation's most historic colonial town and Thompson Square must be seen as a jewel in its crown; surviving as it does with so many pre-1850 buildings, a number of which are Australia's most cherished and have been seen as such for at least the last 100 years.

There is also a report by people, I would regard as reputable, former DMR executives, who claim there is nothing that can't be maintained about the existing bridge across the river which itself is also historic, indeed there is a plaque at the bridge which tells people this.

Whether a new bypass interferes with people's recreation on the river is of little value if one sees the heritage of this country as of paramount importance. I am not sure I can say more when the solution is so obviously to take the through traffic out of the town and certainly out of Thompson Square. The improvements of the road through the square do not really save the square or its important colonial buildings.



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There is a perfectly good solution using the existing upstream high level bridge over South Creek and crossing the Hawkesbury upstream from the town and joining the Putty/Wilberforce Road on the northern side of the existing bridge.

Yours faithfully

is been

Clive Lucas Clive Lucas, Stapleton & Partners Pty. Ltd. Architects and Heritage Consultants