



## MEDIA RELEASE

# MULTIPLE DEFICIENCIES IN GOVERNMENT'S \$100 MILLION WINDSOR BRIDGE PROJECT

### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

22 August 2018

An Upper House committee has today tabled its report into the Windsor Bridge replacement project, finding multiple deficiencies in the government's \$100 million dollar project.

The Chair of the committee, the Hon Robert Brown MLC said: "This is yet another example of the government's no holds barred approach to achieving a preferred outcome. While this committee stopped short of recommending the cessation of this project, the committee finds multiple deficiencies in the government's Windsor Bridge replacement project. This is despite the project's eye watering price tag of \$100 million dollars – almost double the original cost estimate for the project".

Mr Brown continued, "The committee was left in no doubt as to the considerable community opposition to this project. This committee finds that early project options were too narrow in focus; that traffic and flooding issues in Windsor will not be addressed by the bridge replacement project; and that the project was characterised by cost blow outs, errors in modelling, and questionable community engagement practices".

"It behoves the NSW Government now, as a matter of urgency, to ensure that as much of the natural, the built and cultural heritage of the Windsor Bridge site is preserved and communicated in a permanent fashion."

The committee made five findings, and eight recommendations, which largely point to the need for future infrastructure projects to be more transparently planned and communicated to affected communities. The committee also recommended that the existing Windsor Bridge be retained for pedestrian, cycling and light vehicle use.

The committee's report and other inquiry documents can be found on the committee's webpage: [www.parliament.nsw.gov.au/WindsorBridge](http://www.parliament.nsw.gov.au/WindsorBridge).

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*For further information please contact Committee Chair,  
the Hon Robert Brown MLC, on (02) 9230 2573*