

**RP-11 HAMPDEN BRIDGE COMMUNITY LEGACY**

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**Recommendation****That Council:**

- a note the status of the Development Application and process for the demolition of the Hampden Bridge as referred to in this report**
- b note the outcomes of the Contamination Assessment for the Hampden Bridge in respect to the disposal and/or recycling of the timbers from the bridge, in particular the potential risk to human health and the environment resulting from the uncontrolled disposal and/or recycling of the timber**
- c agree that the demolition wastes such as the timbers salvaged from the demolition of the bridge not be made available to the public or be transferred to third parties for reuse, noting that alternative management strategies that incorporate specialist recycling of non-contaminated materials including the timbers could be considered provided:
  - i that the material is managed appropriately**
  - ii Council is aware and in agreeance with the end use and destination of the material**
  - iii the NSW Environmental Protection Authority (EPA) is consulted to confirm that the management strategy for the waste material is appropriate****
- d respond in writing to requests made by members of the community for waste materials recovered from the demolition of the Hampden Bridge in accordance with 'item c' as referred to in the above**
- e proceed with the development of concept plans for the Hampden Bridge Legacy Project in order to commemorate the social, historical and engineering significance of the Hampden Bridge, noting that the project is currently unfunded**
- f receive a further report detailing the concept plans and cost estimates for the Hampden Bridge Legacy Project in accordance with item e as referred to in the above prior to proceeding with detailed design and delivery.**

**Executive Summary**

In February 2013 Council resolved to accept the tender of Southern Cross Demolition Pty Ltd for the complete demolition of Hampden Bridge. As part of fulfilling the tender, Southern Cross Demolition are responsible for the lodgement of the Development Application required for the demolition of the Bridge and preparation and submission of all required associated documentation.

Parallel to the Development Application process, Council staff have been preparing options to ensure the social, historical and engineering significance of the bridge is commemorated at the site of the bridge, through the capture and retention of historical documentation and via the retention of selected material retained from the bridge.

The outcomes of the Development Application, and in particular the directives and recommendations contained within the detailed studies completed to meet the demolition requirements, will have a direct impact on how Council chooses to restore the bridge site as a commemorative location and what material from the bridge is available for re-use.

A summary of the status of these items is contained in this report.

## Report

At its meeting held February 2013 Council resolved to:

- “a accept the tender of Southern Cross Demolition Pty Ltd for the complete demolition of the Hampden Bridge including Pylons (option 3), for the lump sum amount of \$1,881,000.00 including GST as submitted in their tender*
- b authorise the General Manager or his delegate to enter into a contract with Southern Cross Demolition Pty Ltd for the demolition of the Hampden Bridge*
- c authorise the affixing of Council’s seal to documents as required*
- d inform the public which elements of the Hampden Bridge will be retained and what processes will be put in place to ensure historical documentation of the Hampden Bridge is collated and retained”*

## Development Application Process

Since being awarded the tender, Southern Cross Demolition have been completing the studies and documentation required for the lodgement of the Development Application to demolish Hampden Bridge.

To date two pre-lodgement meetings have been held between Southern Cross Demolition and Council Planning officers. Ongoing progress updates have also been provided to Council’s Project Management team responsible for the bridge demolition by Southern Cross Demolition.

Documents required to be lodged as part of the Development Application include:

- Statement of Environmental Effects
- Demolition plan
- Statement of Heritage Impact
- Land Contamination Report
- Waste Disposal Plan
- Rehabilitation and landscaping/revegetation plans
- Tree Report
- Soil and Water Management Plan

Demolition of Hampden Bridge is classified as local development, and will be assessed under delegation by Council's Planning Directorate unless public submissions exceed 9 submissions in which the application will be determined by full Council.

The Development Application will also be subject to review by the following agencies:

- Crown Lands
- EPA
- NSW Office of Water
- NSW Fisheries
- NSW Heritage Branch
- Roads and Maritime Service

It is anticipated that the review process will take between 2 – 3 months once the Development Application is lodged. This time period will be governed by the number of submissions received and whether the application can be determined under delegation. Other factors which will influence the time frame will be any required extension of the notification period as a result of it clashing with the Christmas holiday period and also, if determined by Council, the available meeting dates of Council and the Policy and Strategy Committee during the January/February period.

### **Re-use and distribution of Timber**

The potential for re-use and possible distribution of material recovered through the demolition of the bridge, in particular the timber, has been a key consideration during the formulation of options related to the commemoration of the bridge site.

As part of the ongoing project updates, Council officers have been advised that the Contamination Assessment for the bridge (to be included in the Development Application), contains a clear directive, that due to the potential risks to human health and/or the environment, *'ownership of timbers should not be transferred to third parties for reuse'*.

Specialist recycling of the timber on the site may be permissible if the timber remains in the ownership of Wagga Wagga City Council and the timber is managed appropriately so as not to pose a risk to human health and the environment, through the use of a timber management strategy developed in consultation with the NSW Environmental Protection Authority (EPA).

The additional directive that *'demolition wastes, such as timber, are not suitable for un-controlled distribution to the public'* impacts on previously identified community requests for use and distribution of timber material. Following the development application process, this directive will form the basis for how Council responds in writing to requests made by members of the community for waste materials.

## Legacy Project

The Hampden Bridge Legacy Project has been proposed in order for Council to commemorate the social, historical and engineering significance of the Hampden Bridge, on behalf of the community.

The Legacy Project, which will include the rehabilitation/restoration of the northern and southern sides of the bridge crossing and inclusion of commemorative/interpretive items, will ensure Council meets the requirement of the Heritage Impact Study.

Just as importantly, the development of the Legacy Project concept will ensure significant heritage items and bridge material can be displayed for all the community, without jeopardising the strict parameters for the management and distribution of bridge timber.

## Assessment and acquisition of significant material relating Hampden Bridge Demolition Project

Museum of Riverina staff are coordinating a working group of Museum and Heritage Industry experts (including Powerhouse Museum and RMS representatives) to provide input and assistance into the assessment of significant heritage material from Hampden Bridge.

The resulting report will identify and recommend items required for acquisition and retention, including representative elements, significant engineering items, fixtures on and around the bridge, drawings and photographs. In addition, the report will provide guidance on archival recording requirements and the treatment of the site.

The report will be integral to determining Council's processes to ensure historical documentation related to the bridge - and more – is collated and retained as well as the creation of the Legacy Project as per the following item resolved by Council in February this year:

- d inform the public which elements of the Hampden Bridge will be retained and what processes will be put in place to ensure historical documentation of the Hampden Bridge is collated and retained"*

## Budget

The Legacy Project is currently unfunded.

\$1,976,353 has been allocated in the 2013/2014 Financial Year for the demolition of the bridge inclusive of project management.

Dependent upon the final cost of the demolition of the bridge, there may be some capacity to reallocate some funds to the Legacy Project.

It is likely that additional funding will be required for the delivery of the Legacy Project

**Policy**

POL- 001 Asset Management

**Impact on Public Utilities**

N/A

**Link to Strategic Plan****1. We are an engaged and involved community**

1.1 We are a community that is informed and involved in decisions impacting us

**QBL Analysis**

|               | <b>Positive</b>                                                                                                                                                                          | <b>Negative</b> |
|---------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------|
| Social        | The Hampden Bridge Legacy Project will assist to commemorate the social, historical and engineering significance of the Hampden Bridge, on behalf of the community.                      | N/A             |
| Environmental | The appropriate management of the waste materials recovered through the demolition of the bridge will ensure that the material does not pose a risk to human health and the environment. | N/A             |
| Economic      | N/A                                                                                                                                                                                      | N/A             |
| Governance    | Appropriate decision making process to ensure that legal liability risks are appropriately managed.                                                                                      | N/A             |

**Risk Management and Work Health and Safety Issues for Council**

The potential risks to human health and/or the environment associated with the distribution of waste materials recovered through the demolition of Hampden Bridge are addressed in this report and through the recommendation of staff that the material should not be distributed to the public or third parties for reuse.

**Internal / External Consultation**

Consultation regarding the demolition of Hampden Bridge has included extensive internal and community consultation.

The consultation process regarding the Development Application for the demolition of the bridge has included extensive internal consultation which will

extend to the broader community when the formal Development Application has been lodged.

The Hampden Bridge Legacy Project has been informed by submissions made by the community and has included extensive internal consultations. Further consultation will be undertaken with the community as part of the process for developing the concepts plans for the legacy project.