



COUNCIL TO OPPOSE RIVER STREET BRIDGE

Dubbo Regional Council will formally express an opposition to the construction of the proposed River Street Bridge after a motion was adopted at an extraordinary meeting of Council on Monday night.

Councillors considered a Notice of Motion from John Ryan that had previously been deferred at the July Ordinary meeting of Council.

As part of the Notice of Motion Council voted to note the widespread community opposition to the proposed construction of the River Street Bridge. It also noted the widespread community view that major highways be diverted around the city of Dubbo in a way that boosts economic activity and ensures the liveability and amenity of Dubbo.

In addition to the formal opposition of River Street Bridge, Council also requested that Chief Executive Officer Michael McMahon prepare a report for the December 2019 Ordinary meeting of Council detailing any and all measures within Council's powers to stop the project.

It was also decided that Council would continue to make representations to the NSW Government to provide future positive outcomes to the traffic issues currently experienced within the city of Dubbo.

Mayor of the Dubbo Region Ben Shields said it was important for the Council to make its position on a third high level river crossing clear.

"This is an issue that has been going on for more than two years now. It has been quite clear from the outset that the public opposes River Street and I am still concerned that it does nothing to address the congestion on the intersection of Whylandra and Victoria streets.

"I believe residents want a clearer run through that important West Dubbo intersection and they also want heavy vehicles taken out of the CBD. The proposed River Street Bridge doesn't do either of these things.

"I think it is important that Council continue to push for a low-level crossing in South Dubbo, which would provide some relief for residents in this area."

A revised and updated Stapleton Report is proposed to be presented to Council in October 2019, which will guide Council's future traffic plans.

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