



NORTHBRIDGE
PROGRESS ASSOCIATION

Working for the advancement of Northbridge since 1919

ABN 733 956 702

PO Box 357 Northbridge 2063

September 9 2009

The State Coroner
Office of the State Coroner
44-46 Parramatta Rd
GLEBE NSW 2037

Dear State Coroner

Re: File no 138/07 - Inquest into the death of John Sayers

Our Association has 350 members who represent a broad cross-section of residents in Northbridge.

In a report dated April 21 2008 after the above inquest into a suicide, the Coroner recommended that a safety barrier be erected by RTA as soon as possible on the Northbridge Suspension Bridge. The report also recommended:

“That any safety barrier be designed to take into account the bridge’s significant heritage and architectural values and to harmonise with them.”

Our Association has attended meetings between RTA, North Sydney and Willoughby City Councils and several community organisations about the design of the safety barrier. The two Councils, all the community organizations and their expert advisers have concluded that the RTA’s preferred, lowest cost safety barrier design does not suit the heritage and architectural values of the Suspension Bridge.

RTA seems determined to proceed with this unsuitable design despite the repeated requests of all the above organisations to hold a design competition to find a more acceptable design.

We raise this issue with you in case there is any way the Coroner can help resolve the situation, which is of great concern to Northbridge residents.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Peter McNair', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Peter McNair
President

Copy: Hon Michael Daley MP
Minister for Roads
Parliament House
Macquarie St
SYDNEY NSW 2000