

VIEWPOINT 11

Small carpark near the intersection of Old Bridge Street and The Terrace, looking north west.

Site description

Small carpark located south of The Terrace. The carpark sits on a small terrace as the southern portion of Thompson Square slopes towards the river. A number of trees are located around the edge of the carpark. Views are provided over the river to the northern foreshore.

Viewpoint selection

This viewpoint is from a motorists and pedestrians perspective. It addresses foreground views to the works.

Viewpoint	Magnitude	Sensitivity	Impact
11 Foreground view	High The location of this viewpoint would be covered by the replacement bridge, completely altering the view. The existing two lane bridge would be removed. Scour protection works would be highly visible on the northern foreshore. Trees would be removed on both foreshore areas for the scour protection works.	High There are generally few viewers who would have views from this location, but its high scenic and cultural qualities increase its rating.	High



VIEWPOINT 12

Windsor Wharf, looking south west.

Site description

Windsor Wharf is located on the southern shore of the Hawkesbury River, east of the existing bridge. It was recently reconstructed (early 2012) as a floating pontoon structure. It provides extensive views to the east and west along the river.

Viewpoint selection

This viewpoint is from a pedestrians and wharf users perspective. It addresses foreground views to the bridge works.

Viewpoint	Magnitude	Sensitivity	Impact
12 Foreground view	High The existing two lane bridge would be removed. The replacement bridge and abutments, larger in scale and higher than the existing bridge, would be highly prominent from this location for the entire width of the view, due to its proximity and the removal of existing trees on the southern foreshore. Traffic on the elevated bridge would be very prominent, particularly large trucks. Scour protection works would be visible on the southern foreshore.	High The highly scenic nature of this location makes its sensitivity high.	High





VIEWPOINT 13

Pedestrian path at Howe Park, looking north east.

Site description

Howe Park is a predominately grassed space with scattered tree planting on the sloping southern banks of the Hawkesbury River. It includes a concrete pedestrian path that links the sporting fields at Deerubbun Park with The Terrace. A number of residences back onto the park.

Viewpoint selection

This viewpoint is from a pedestrians perspective. It addresses mid distance views to the bridge works.

Viewpoint	Magnitude	Sensitivity	Impact
13 Mid to long distance view	Moderate The removal of the existing bridge and the replacement bridge sitting above the existing landform would be visible. Vehicles crossing the replacement bridge, particularly trucks, would be visible above the horizon. The small extent of work visible within the composition of the view and the distance from the work, reduce the rating.	Low to Moderate Due to the low number of pedestrians, fleeting views through the trees, and distance from the proposed works, sensitivity would be low to moderate.	Moderate to Low



VIEWPOINT 14

Picnic shelter near the playground at Governor Phillip Park, looking south west.

Site description

Governor Phillip Park is a generally flat, grassed open space with scattered tree planting. A small playground and two small picnic shelters are located nearby. Relatively dense vegetation is located on the river bank.

Viewpoint selection

This viewpoint is from a pedestrians perspective. It addresses mid distance views to the bridge works.

Viewpoint	Magnitude	Sensitivity	Impact
14 Mid distance view	Low The removal of the existing bridge and the replacement bridge sitting above the existing landform would be visible through the existing vegetation. There would be minimal alteration of the view due to the foreshore vegetation screening a majority of the works from this location.	High to Moderate This location is a popular public park that has high sensitivity. Sensitivity is slightly reduced due to the distance from the proposed works.	Moderate





VIEWPOINT 15

Governor Phillip Park, north of carpark, looking south west.

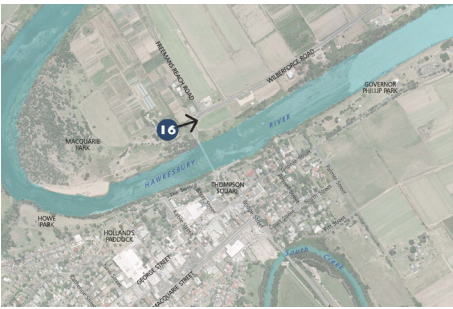
Site description

Governor Phillip Park is a generally flat, grassed open space with scattered tree planting, with a sloping grassed riverbank. A large carpark is located at the end of the existing access road. The Upper Hawkesbury Power Boat Club is also located in the park.

Viewpoint selection

This viewpoint is from a pedestrians perspective. It addresses mid distance views to the bridge works.

Viewpoint	Magnitude	Sensitivity	Impact
15	Moderate to Low	High to Moderate	Moderate
Mid to long distance view	The removal of the existing bridge and the replacement bridge sitting above the existing landform would be visible. Vehicles crossing the replacement bridge, particularly trucks, would be visible, but not above the horizon. The small extent of work visible within the composition of the view and the distance from the work, reduce the rating.	This location is a popular public park that has high sensitivity. Sensitivity is slightly reduced due to the distance from the proposed works.	



VIEWPOINT 16

Macquarie Park, near picnic shelter, looking north east.

Site description

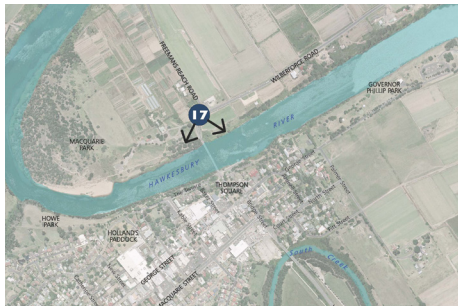
Entry road to Macquarie Park leads to a small carpark. A playground and picnic shelter is located between the road and a well vegetated river bank. A restaurant is located in the grounds.

Viewpoint selection

This viewpoint is from a park users perspective. It addresses foreground views to the northern approach road works.

Viewpoint	Magnitude	Sensitivity	Impact
16	Low	High to Moderate	Moderate
Foreground view	The existing approach road would be removed and the cut embankment filled and regraded. The entry road would be extended to link with the proposed roundabout. New tree planting in the area surrounding the roundabout would be visible. Existing tree planting in the foreground reduces the extent of the view.	The park has high sensitivity to change, but is slightly reduced by the narrowness of the view corridor.	





VIEWPOINT 17

Wilberforce Road, west of Freemans Reach Road intersection, outside residence, looking south.

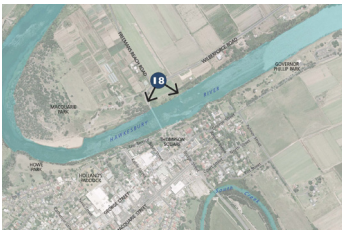
Site description

Extensive, flat, agricultural (turf farms) landscape on the northern side of the river. Located on the curve of Wilberforce Road as it heads to the bridge, outside of an historic residence, between Freemans Reach Road and the Macquarie Park access road.

Viewpoint selection

This viewpoint is from the perspective of the residence and the motorist as they approach the existing bridge. It addresses foreground views to the northern approach road, roundabout, and bridge works.

Viewpoint	Magnitude	Sensitivity	Impact
17 Foreground view	High to Moderate The increased road pavement and infrastructure in the form of the roundabout linking Wilberforce Road, Freemans Reach Road, the replacement bridge and the Macquarie Park access road would be clearly visible from this location. Vehicles moving around the rounadabout would be more prominent from this viewpoint as the existing road is in cutting. The existing road would be removed and the area regraded, turfed and planted. Shared paths would be located in this parkland area.	High to Moderate The historic values and close proximity of one residence, 'Bridgeview' to the works gives it a high to moderate sensitivity.	High to Moderate



VIEWPOINT 18

Wilberforce Road, east of Freemans Reach Road intersection, outside agricultural building, looking south.

Site description

Extensive, flat, agricultural (turf farms) landscape on the northern side of the river. Located on Wilberforce Road, 40 metres east of Freemans Reach Road. The viewpoint is taken from the driveway of President Turf.

Viewpoint selection

This viewpoint is from the perspective of a turf farm worker. It addresses foreground views to the northern approach road, roundabout, and bridge works.

Viewpoint	Magnitude	Sensitivity	Impact
18 Foreground and mid distance view	High to Moderate The increased road pavement and infrastructure in the form of the roundabout linking Wilberforce Road, Freemans Reach Road, the replacement bridge and the Macquarie Park access road would be clearly visible from this location. Vehicles moving around the rounadabout would b more prominent from this viewpoint as the existing road is in cutting. The existing road would be removed and the area regraded, turfed and planted. Shared paths would be located in this parkland area. During construction, the temporary construction facility on the turf farm site on the southern side of the road would be visible.	Moderate Few viewers in a working environment will have low sensitivity to the works. Motorists travelling on Wilberforce Road have an attractive view of Windsor although they are travelling at a moderate speed.	High to Moderate



SUMMARY

A total of 18 viewpoints form the basis of the visual impact assessment. The viewpoints are focused across the range of anticipated magnitudes and sensitivities, providing a more even ratings outcome.

Out of the 18 selected viewpoints, visual impact ratings were determined as follows:

- Five viewpoints would have High visual impact;
- Five viewpoints would have High to Moderate visual impact;
- Four viewpoints would have Moderate visual impact;
- Two viewpoints would have Moderate to Low visual impact;
- Two viewpoints would have Low visual impact.

Ratings of high impact occur in the open space areas in close proximity to the Hawkesbury River and around Thompson Square where the sensitivity to change is the highest. High to moderate impacts were recorded around the upper areas of Thompson Square, where the high sensitivity to change combined with the moderate magnitude of the proposed works to slightly reduce the visual impact. Moderate impacts were recorded in some foreshore open space areas and agricultural areas where views to the proposed works are distant or partially screened by vegetation. Low to moderate and low impacts occur in areas of low magnitude, for example, views from George Street and the commercial area of Bridge Street.

Landscape and urban design mitigation strategies have been developed from the outcomes of the landscape character and visual assessments, in order to assist in the mitigation of any potential impacts, and these are discussed in the section 7.5.