

Further Information Sub 10. Cr. Barwick and Councillor Glisson -9th Feb. 2016

To sow the seeds for a significant Tourism and Infrastructure project for Tasmania, which could soon replace the Sydney Harbour Bridge as a Tourism mecca.

There are currently six 'Transporter Bridges' in the world - all in the northern Hemisphere with the most significant one being in Bilbao (built 1893) in Northern Spain. Others are located in France (1898, 1900), Germany (1909), UK (1911, 2015) & USA (1905).

Unlike a normal bridge, transporter bridges carry their traffic in 'gondolas' strung beneath the superstructure. The spans of these bridges range from 100m to 400m.

The proposal is to span the River Tamar between George Town and Beauty Point by erecting a tower each side of the river linked by a wide span. At the top of each tower a tourism platform be built and access to the cross river span be made so that Tourists could cross the river, for a fee.

Visitors could be charged a fee for travelling in the gondola from one side of the river to the other – as either a pedestrian or with a vehicle. Additional charges could be levied for taking the lifts to the top of the two supporting towers to the Tourism platforms and extra fees could be charged for walking across the river on the wide connecting span.

The project could be designed in Tasmania, built and constructed by Tasmanian companies and thereafter maintained by Tasmanian companies. The project would create jobs in Northern Tasmania for the build and construction as well for the ongoing maintenance plus the Tourism part of the project.

The bridge would connect the east and western sides of the Tamar, and create an easy link to the golf courses across the north. The bridge could also easily carry infrastructure services from one side to the other side of the river. The benefits are ongoing and only limited by the imagination. It is envisaged that the bridge would create a significant Tourism draw to Northern Tasmania, with extra Tourists being drawn from all over Australia as well as international tourists.

Just some more information

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