

Aboriginal Advisory Committee

Meeting Date: Monday, 03 May, 2021
Location: Council Chambers, City Administrative Centre, Bridge Road, Nowra
Time: 4.00pm

Addendum Agenda

Reports

AA21.9	Update - Suburb Naming Options - Moss Vale Road Urban Release Areas	1
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AA21.9 Update - Suburb Naming Options - Moss Vale Road Urban Release Areas

HPERM Ref: D21/167668

Department: Strategic Planning

Approver: Robert Domm, Director - City Futures

Reason for Report

Seek support for two (2) naming options for the proposed new suburb encompassing the Moss Vale Road North and South Urban Release Areas following the endorsement of these names by the Nowra Local Aboriginal Land Council.

Recommendation (Item to be determined under delegated authority)

That:

1. The Aboriginal Advisory Committee (AAC) provide support for the following two (2) naming options for the proposed new suburb encompassing the Moss Vale Road North and South Urban Release Areas:
 - a. Gumbeengang (alternate spelling Janbeegang)
 - b. Badagarang
2. If supported by the AAC, these two (2) names be reported to an upcoming Council Meeting to seek endorsement to proceed to broader public exhibition.

Options

1. The Aboriginal Advisory Committee (AAC) provide support for the following two (2) naming options for the new suburb encompassing the Moss Vale Road North and South Urban Release Areas (URAs):
 - a. Gumbeengang (alternate spelling Janbeegang)
 - b. Badagarang

If supported by the AAC, these two (2) naming options will be reported to Council to obtain endorsement to proceed to broader public exhibition.

Implications: This option reflects the recent endorsement of the proposed names by the Nowra Local Aboriginal Land Council (LALC), while ensuring the AAC has the opportunity to provide input into the process. This option will also ensure that the Council has the opportunity to endorse the potential list of names prior to broader community consultation.

2. Receive this report for information and not offer support or feedback on the two (2) naming options at this point.

Implications: This has the potential to delay the project by several months due to the tri-monthly meeting schedule of the AAC. There is a risk that such a delay could exclude this project from the upcoming public consultation for the broader package of planning controls for the Moss Vale Road North URA.

Delaying the project also carries the risk of creating complications and confusion for future landowners within the URAs if new residential lots are finally registered prior to the formal gazettal of the new name.

3. Alternative recommendation as decided by the Committee.

Implications: The implications for an alternative recommendation are not known at this point.

Background

This matter was previously presented to the AAC on 22 February 2021. During this meeting, Council staff committed to report back to the AAC following further consultation with the Nowra LALC. The following provides a recap of the project and the outcomes of recent consultation with the LALC.

Project Recap

Council is currently working toward the realisation of two (2) large URAs in the Nowra-Bomaderry area along Moss Vale Road – currently known as the ‘Moss Vale Road North’ and ‘Moss Vale Road South’ URAs (Figure 1).

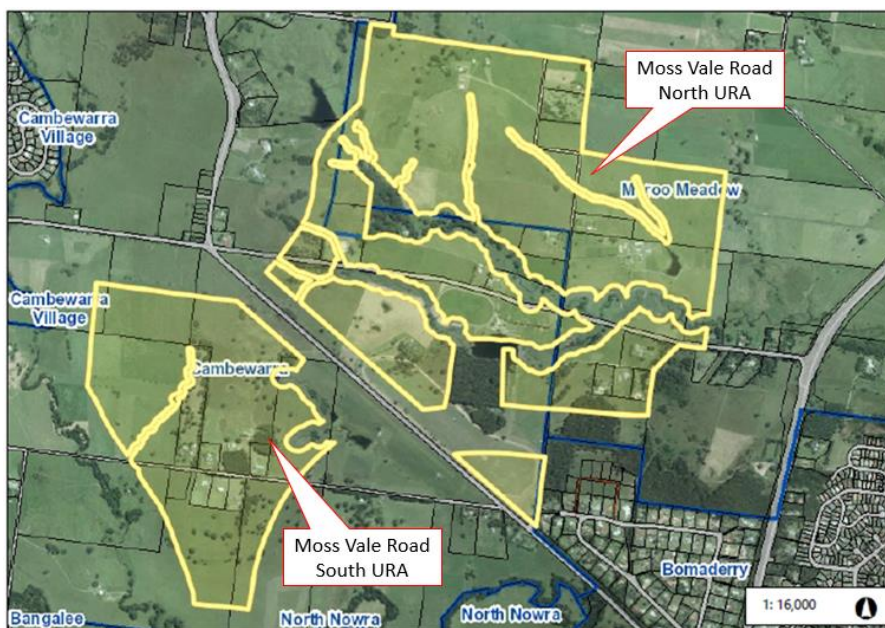


Figure 1: Location of the Moss Vale Road North and South URAs in relation to existing localities.

These two (2) URAs are located across the current boundaries of both Cambewarra and Meroo Meadow localities. Because the release of the URAs will represent a significant new urban area in the Nowra-Bomaderry area (approximately 2,380+ homes), it is considered appropriate to give this broader new urban area a new suburb name to distinguish it from the surrounding areas of Cambewarra, Meroo Meadow and Bomaderry.

Overview of Naming Principles

The NSW Geographic Names Board (GNB) set the process for the naming of new places and suburbs. They apply a set of universal naming principles to ensure that places are assigned names that are unique to the local area, culturally appropriate, and easy to communicate.

A brief summary of the GNB's key criteria for new place names are as follows:

- The use of traditional Aboriginal names is encouraged.
- The use of local plant and animal species, and landscape and cultural features, is preferred.
- Family names are generally not favoured.

Process

The standard process for naming new places is as follows:

1. Early liaison with the relevant LALC to gauge interest and determine a range of potential names that reflect the local area.
2. Early testing of initial names with GNB (for duplication, suitability, pronunciation, etc.) to narrow down to a shortlist.
3. Consultation with the Aboriginal Advisory Committee to seek endorsement of two (2) shortlisted names.
4. Report to Council Meeting for formal endorsement of two (2) potential names for public exhibition.
5. Broader community consultation to determine public preference for potential name (minimum 28-day public exhibition).
6. Outcome of public exhibition to be reported to Council to seek formal nomination of name and submission to the GNB.
7. Consideration of the proposed name by the GNB. If supported, GNB undertake mandatory one-month public notification period.
8. If no objections are received during the notification period, the GNB publish the new name in the Government Gazette.
9. If, however, objections are received by the GNB during the notification period, the process is extended (timeframes determined on a case-by-case basis).

Consultation with the Nowra LALC and AAC

Council has been collaborating with the Nowra LALC on this project since the beginning of 2020. Early discussions with the LALC CEO (past and present) and some LALC members indicated a willingness to participate in the project.

Council staff met with the LALC Board on 24 August 2020, where the LALC confirmed their involvement in the project and requested Council staff provide some preliminary options to the Board for consideration.

Research was then undertaken by Council staff who consulted a broad range of resources to compile a list of possible names that satisfied GNB's universal naming principles. A number of local and online resources were consulted as part of this process, resulting in a longlist of twelve (12) names that was provided to the LALC in November 2020 for review/comment.

Further engagement with both the LALC and the GNB resulted in this list being refined to a potential four (4) names (refer to Table 1), which were presented to the AAC on 22 February for initial feedback. No objections were raised to these names during this meeting; however, there was some discussion around the possibility of additional names being presented to the LALC following discussions with the local community.

Table 1: Initial shortlist of four (4) names, as presented to the AAC on 22 February 2021.

Suggested Name	Meaning	Resource Origin
Badagarang	Eastern Grey Kangaroo (Dharawal Totem)	1. <i>Dharawal Online Dictionary</i> (partnership between University of NSW and Centre of Indigenous Technology, Innovation & Environmental Sustainability (CITIES) https://dharug.dalang.com.au/language/dictionary 2. <i>Les Bursill: Aboriginal Words of the Dharawal People</i> (www.lesbursill.com)
Buru / Booroo	Eastern Grey Kangaroo (alternative name – see above. Dharawal Totem)	1. <i>Dharawal Online Dictionary</i> (see above) 2. <i>Murni Dhungang Jirrar: Living in the Illawarra</i> (book written by Sue Wesson) 3. <i>Illawarra and South Coast Aborigines 1770-1900</i> (research paper compiled by Michael K. Organ, University of Wollongong – https://ro.uow.edu.au/cgi/viewcontent.cgi?article=1117&context=asdpapers)
Calboonya	Superb Lyrebird (Dharawal Totem)	1. <i>Murni Dhungang Jirrar: Living in the Illawarra</i> 2. <i>Illawarra and South Coast Aborigines 1770-1900</i> (research paper by Michael K. Organ – see above)
Gumbeengang / Janbeegang	Traditional name for Cambewarra Mountain	1. <i>Cullunghutti: The Mountain and its People</i>

It is understood that no other names have been presented to the LALC for consideration thus far. Given the timeframe and the need for a decision to be made to move forward with the project, the LALC considered the four (4) names at their Board Meeting of 15 April 2021, where they resolved to support the following (in this order) as possible names for the Moss Vale Road URAs:

1. Gumbeengang (alternative spelling Janbeegang)
2. Badagarang

Council staff welcome this decision and are now seeking the support of the AAC to proceed to the next step in the process.

Community Engagement

Council staff have been collaborating with the LALC on this project since early 2020. Broader community consultation will occur following the AAC and Council's endorsement of the two (2) proposed options via Council's 28-day public exhibition period. As noted, the GNB will also publicly notify the proposed name as a separate process following Council's consultation period and formal nomination of the preferred name.

Policy Implications

There are no policy implications at this point. However, the gazettal of the new suburb name will require changes to information held in Council's Geographic Information Systems and with the NSW Land Registry Services.

Risk Implications

There is minimal risk in the AAC offering support for the two (2) naming options at this point. The Nowra LALC have already indicated their initial preference for these two (2) possible names and, following consideration by the Council, the broader public will also have the opportunity to make a submission and provide feedback during the Council's 28-day public exhibition period.

There is a risk that, should the process be unduly delayed, this project could be excluded from the upcoming public consultation for the broader package of planning controls for the Moss Vale Road North URA. There is also a risk that the early stages of the Moss Vale Road South URA will be released prior to the gazettal of the new suburb name, which may create confusion and uncertainty for new landowners and residents moving into the area as address changes would be required.