



**CITY OF  
PARRAMATTA**

# **Unnamed Pedestrian Thoroughfare, Epping**

Engagement Evaluation & Key Findings  
September 2022



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# 1. INTRODUCTION

In August of 2022, Council sought the community's feedback on a proposal to name the unnamed pedestrian thoroughfare linking Forest Grove and Essex Street in Epping.

The aim of the consultation was to ensure the proposed names reflect current community values, prior to recommending a single name for Council endorsement and gazettal.

Council worked with a Dharug language consultant and the NSW Geographical Names Board (GNB), to provide options that adhere to guidelines set out in Council's Road Naming Policy (no. 283) and the NSW Address Policy and User Manual (May 2021).

This specifies that they do not sound similar to other place names within a 10km radius of the site. The GNB also encourages the creation of distinctive place names that reflect the local heritage of the area and are memorable for residents and the wider community.

Please refer to the map below to see where the service laneway is located.



## 2. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Council sought the community's feedback on four options for the unnamed service laneway. All were Dharug words evoking connection to the area. The consultation took place from Monday 8 August 2022 to Monday 29 August 2022.

The objectives of the consultation were:

Engagement Level	Objectives
Inform	Communicate that Council had worked with a Dharug language consultant and the Geographic Names Board (GNB) to investigate site appropriate names that reflect the local area.
Consult	Obtain feedback from the community and stakeholders on the four proposed names for the unnamed thoroughfare.

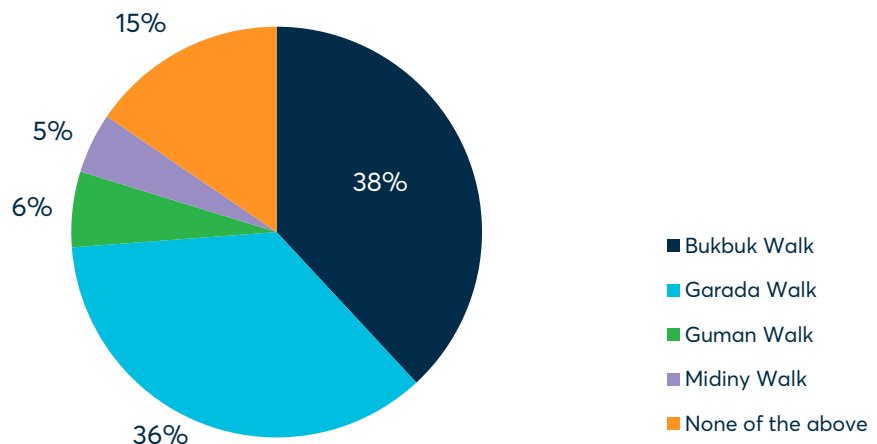
### 2.1. SUMMARY OF KEY FINDINGS

Council received 91 submissions over the consultation period:

- 84 via Participate Parramatta (86 less 1 submitted in error)
- 7 via email

Overall, the community sentiment was positive with 38% of submissions providing a preference for 'Bukbuk Walk' – meaning owl.

#### Epping Pedestrian Thoroughfare Options - survey and email combined



Answer	%	Count
Bukbuk Walk meaning Owl	37.4	34
Garada Walk meaning Pathway	34	31

Guman Walk meaning Pine or Fir	6.6	6
Midiny Walk meaning Yam	4.4	4
None of the above	17.6	16
<b>Total</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>91</b>

There were 15 alternative names suggested in the comments, four acknowledging former residents:

- Hazelwood Walk after Walter G. Hazlewood
- In memory of Margaret McCartney
- In memory of Doris Brauer
- In memory of George Mannix

Other suggestions were:

- Lionel Walk (no context provided)
- Bush Walk
- Mugaharu, Narrowleaf, Ironbark
- Longfence
- Forestex
- Forest Way
- Fuzzy Wuzzy Angel Walk
- Sneakyback Lane
- Danger Walk
- Forex Walk
- Fruit Tree Way

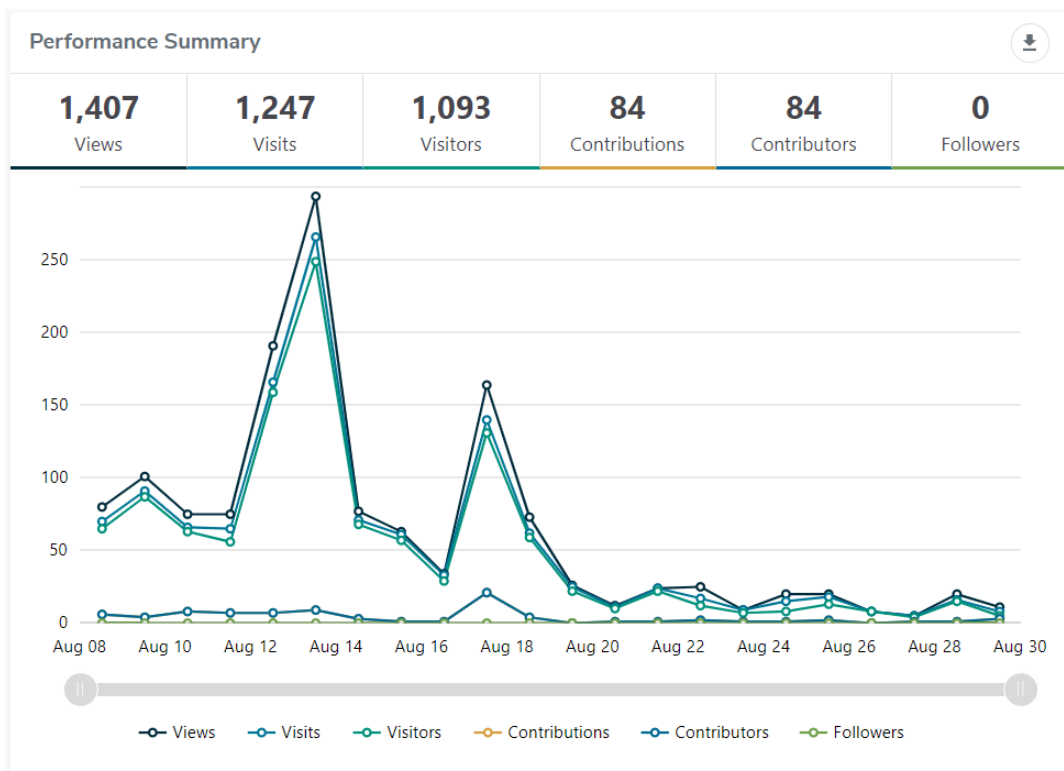


Figure 1 Participate Parramatta

### 3. ENGAGEMENT EVALUATION

The following section provides a snapshot of the communications and engagement channels used to promote the public exhibition to people who live in Epping and direct them to Council's online engagement portal Participate Parramatta.

Overall, the opportunity to provide feedback for this project was presented on more than 19,000 occasions culminating in 91 formal contributions.

#### Resources

A poster was designed to support and promote the exhibition. The poster also included a QR code which received a total of 96 scans. This was a very effective tool for the project and drew much higher than average attention.

#### Direct mail out

485 letters detailing the exhibition and how to submit feedback were sent to residents near the site.

#### Social Media

The exhibition was promoted via a paid campaign across Facebook and Instagram. Overall, the social media campaign garnered a reach of 7545 resulting in 439 clicks to the project page.

Paid Advertisements	
Reach	7545
Link clicks	439
Engagements	496
Total spend	\$183



The post inspired 44 comments<sup>1</sup> on social media. Council's Digital team provided the following insights and comments:

<sup>1</sup> Not part of formal feedback, however Bukbuk Lane was mentioned positively.

- Overall, the paid campaign performed well with good CPC, CTR, and ER.
- Frequency was right in the target range indicating the allocated spend was appropriate for the campaign length and audience size.
- A high ER indicates that this campaign is one that was of interest to the community.

#### Electronic direct notification

Channel	Subscribers	Date	Open rate
Participate Parramatta Newsletter	10,909	17/08	48.1%

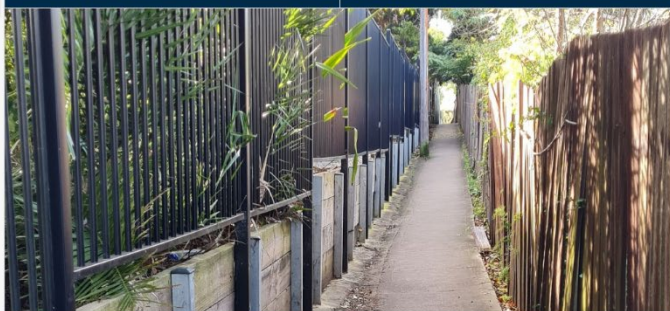
#### Participate Parramatta

The exhibition was hosted on the Participate Parramatta engagement platform.

Project Page Events	
Views	1407
Visits	1247
Visitors	1093
Contributions	84
Contributors	84

View the project page here: <https://participate.cityofparramatta.nsw.gov.au/laneway-name-epping>





## Unnamed Pedestrian Thoroughfare in Epping

Submissions closed at 5pm on Monday 29 August 2022.

[Home](#) / Unnamed Pedestrian Thoroughfare in Epping

### [Magic Tab Set #1] FEEDBACK

Council invited the community to help us name this unnamed thoroughfare in Epping!

This consultation closed at 5pm on Monday 29 August 2022. Thank you to everyone who participated.

#### Where is the thoroughfare?

Lying between Forest Grove and Essex Street, the unnamed thoroughfare links local residents to Forest Park.

#### The options

The NSW Geographical Names Board encourages place names that reflect the heritage, culture and identity of a site; and make it distinctive and memorable for residents and the wider community.

For this project, Council invited a Dharug language consultant to suggest names that represent the connection of First Nations people to Epping.

The options are:

 <p><b>Bukbuk Walk</b> Meaning owl</p>	 <p><b>Guman Walk</b> Meaning Pine or Fir tree</p>
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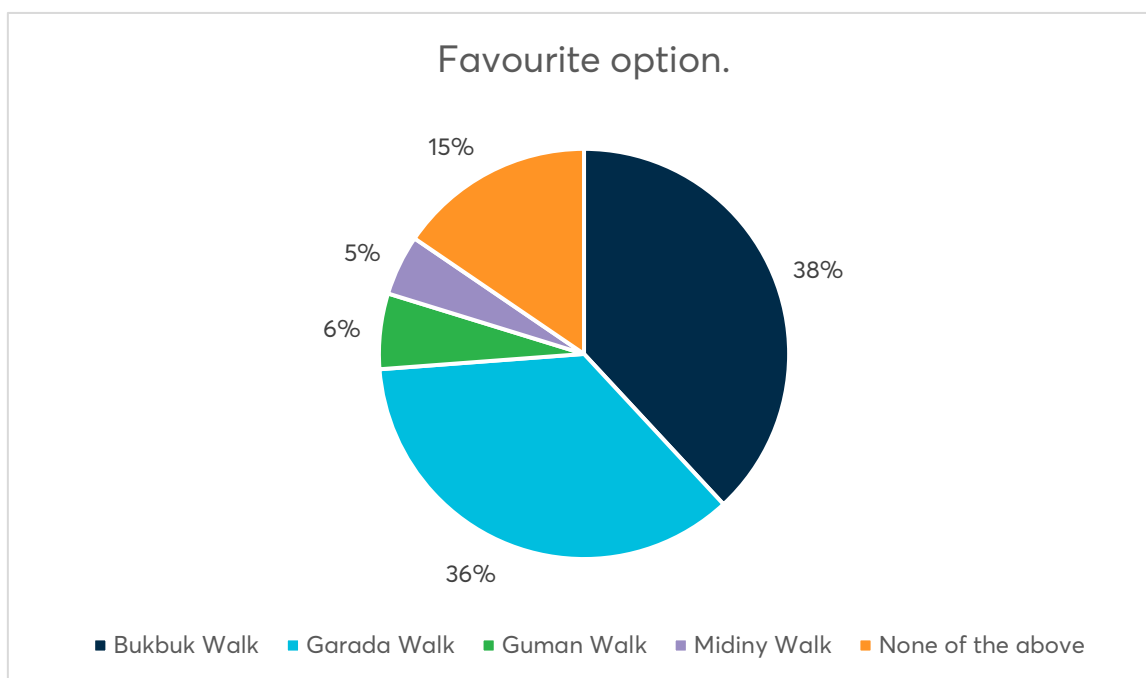
### Timeline

-  **September 2021**  
Community consultation was held from Wednesday 1 September to Wednesday 22 September on two pre-approved name options.
-  **October - November 2021**  
Review of community feedback.
-  **February 2022**  
Preferred name was not endorsed by Council.
-  **March 2022**  
A registered Indigenous Corporation was engaged to provide suitable naming options for this site in line with Council's resolution.
-  **August 2022**  
Community consultation on revised naming options.
-  **September / October 2022**  
Review feedback and put forward for Council consideration.
-  **November 2022**

## 4. KEY FINDINGS

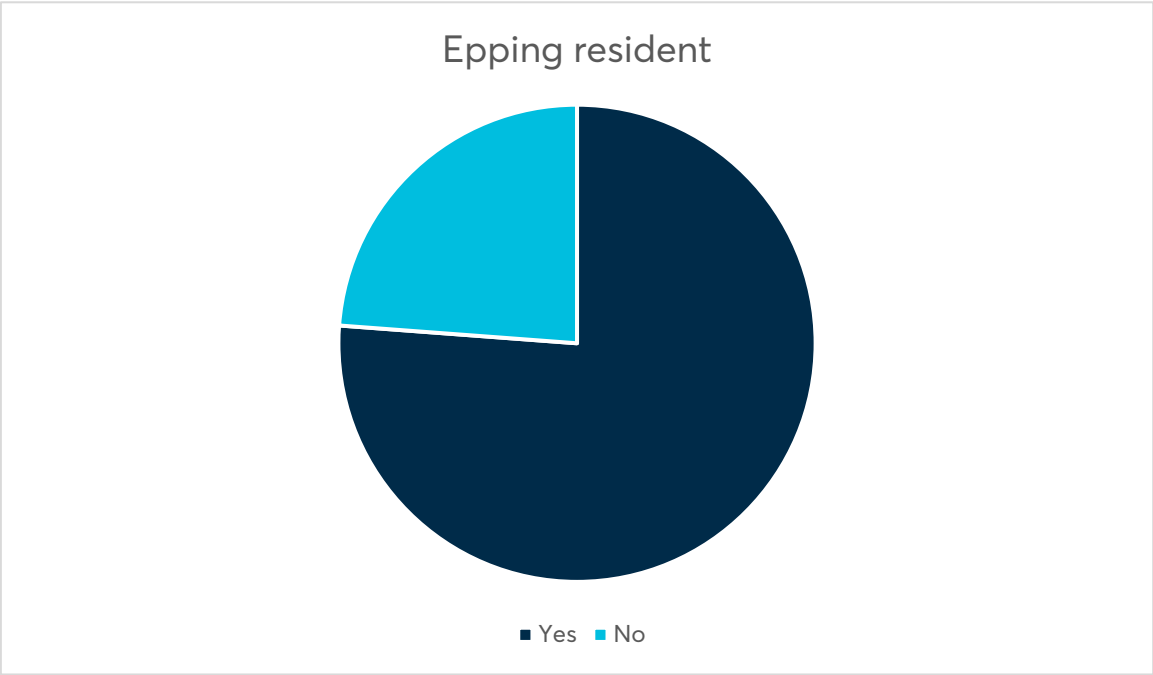
### 4.1. Online submissions (n = 84)

Q. Please choose your favourite option.



Answer	%	Count
Bukbuk Walk – meaning Owl	38.10	32
Garada Walk – meaning Short Paths	35.71	30
Guman Walk – meaning Fir or Pine Tree	5.95	5
Midiny Walk – meaning Yam	4.76	4
None of the above	15.48	13
<b>Total</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>84 responses</b>

Q. Do you live in Epping?



Answer	%	Count
Yes	76.19%	64
No	23.81%	20
Total	100%	84 responses

Q. Which suburb do you live in?

Suburbs included Carlingford, Blacktown, Northmead, Cheltenham, Eastwood, Marsden Park, Marsfield, Merrylands, North Parramatta, North Rocks, Northmead, West Ryde, Winston Hills. Two of these respondents identified as having lived in Epping.

#### **4.2. *Comments and further feedback***

There were 36 comments provided. The comments included:

- Positive sentiment toward the Dharug language options – 6 comments
- Offering an alternative suggestion – 14 comments
- Negative sentiment stemming from Council's previous consultation on this matter – 2 comments
- Other matters such as fencing, lighting, safety, a mural, signposting, cleaning – 9 comments

Overall, the engagement proved popular and community sentiment and interest was high.

Please see the Appendix for the comments in full.

#### **4.3. *Email and verbal submissions (n = 7)***

6 emails were received by the Place Services team containing 7 votes.

Bukbuk – 2

Garada – 1

Guman – 1

Other – 3

Other included suggestions:

- In memory of George Mannix
- Longfence Lane
- Forestex Lane

## 5. RECOMMENDATIONS

This report presents and analyses the key findings and sentiment from the recent exhibition for the unnamed pedestrian thoroughfare in Epping.

Careful consideration should be given to all the feedback and views presented in this report before a decision is made.

Council should respond to each concern and suggestion raised.

**A summary of findings should also be reported back to the community (when appropriate but in a timely manner), highlighting how community feedback has influenced the project. The final decision and reasons why should be made public and reported back to those who provided feedback.**

These recommendations are in line with Council's engagement principles and commitments outlined in the Community Engagement Strategy and Community and Stakeholder Engagement Policy.

***"We make our decisions in an open and transparent way and provide feedback to our stakeholders in order to explain our decisions and let them know how their input has been considered".***

## 6. APPENDIX

### 6.1 Survey comments (de-identified) - 34 answers were provided.

Would you like to add a comment or submission?
Forest Way Because this laneway leads to Forest Park. So it's easy to remember.
I grew up on Forest Grove and my family always used to call this path 'the laneway.' Because of this I think the Dharug word for laneways would be most fitting.
I propose this walkway be named "Hazlewood Walk" after Walter G. Hazlewood, a prominent Epping resident, who lived next to this thoroughfare in Essex Street, with his wife and family. Walter G. Hazlewood was the author of the books: "History of Epping" and "Trees, Shrubs and Roses". These two books reflect his passion for the Epping area giving a valuable insight into the development and growth of the Epping area over more than a century, and reflect his love of the diverse horticulture in this area. Selecting the name, "Hazlewood Walk", would be consistent with the practice of naming the streets and parks in the area after prominent people.
The old wooden fence is tilted and cause potential danger, and the lighting is insufficient during night time. overall not very safe and pleasant to walk through.
No.
None
Fuzzy Wuzzy Angel walk. I feel Australians should pay tribute to these wonderful Papua New Guinea people who saved many Australian lives by risking their own. They made a major contribution to stopping the Japanese invasion of Australia, by naming such a walk it will honour these people for years to come and remind future generations of the selfless sacrifices these people made for the good of Australia.
Unfortunately too many trees have been/are being chopped down in Epping and therefore no owls left and definitely no yams, so only option is laneway/short path. I wonder what the Dharug words for concrete, highrise and congestion are? Probably more appropriate for the current identity.
I suggest "Sneakyback Lane". That is what I already call it :)
How about 'Danger Walk'? It doesn't look too safe to me :/ Why did Council reject what the people have selected when this was an authentic process? Personally I'd love to see the Indigenous/ First Nations language and names used for bigger and more important projects and places. And I strongly dislike places being named after local settlers/ land owners even if they were good local citizens.
Why does everything need an indigenous name?
I'm sure council plan to record and publicise the name and selection process so the community understand the choice. I wonder if the late Margaret McCartney's name has come up as someone whose work related to Forest Park and the environment should be remembered in some way? She died in 2021.
Forex Walk - an easy-to-remember combination of Forest Grove and Essex St.

The 1940s aerials have Forest Park in them and the Wollemi Pines along Blaxland Road are so iconic in this streetscape. This would be a lovely nod of recognition for them!
I am pleased to see indigenous names being suggested
I love that it's getting a name. I also call it Fairy Lane!
It's great that you opted to consult the traditional owners
'Fruit Tree Way' was the preferred name of the community. That's what it should be named.
If the result is still undecided regarding an indigenous name, then would the name (Doris Brauer Lane), who was a local resident of 60 Essex Street, Epping be considered?
The George Mannix Way.
George Mannix was a lover of life and contributed greatly to the City of Parramatta with his skill of major events facilitating. This walk way would be a fitting legacy to George who despite his health battles also enjoyed the morning sun and the beautiful sunsets daily.
George Mannix way
While it is honourable of Council to promote the use of indigenous names, it seems to me that a laneway is insufficiently substantial to achieve the respect for first nations culture Council seeks. It smacks of tokenism. This minor thoroughfare should honour one of Epping's own residents, someone with roots in the community who contributed to the area, who should be remembered. Council renamed a crossing the Bernie Banton Bridge, as an example. I nominate my late husband, George Mannix, an one who should be so honoured. George, a manager for city animation for Parra City, made extraordinary changes during his time at Council. He established Winterlight; Parramasala, and innumerable events that brought life and vigour to Parramatta. George was a modest man. He was a man of integrity, principle and good judgement. Please consider naming this laneway 'George Mannix Way'
I'm guessing it's difficult know with the fences owned privately but potentially working with the developer of the new apartment building to add a mural (matching the chosen name and ideally done by a local artist) on the fence would increase the attractiveness of the walkway to people, as well as marking the new name.
Needs better signposting so people know they can use it and where it goes, even using it regularly I somehow forget where the entrance is. Even better would be including way-finding on a sign post and including the Dharug name for the place (e.g. finding out the traditional name for Terrys Creek)
Needs to be regularly cleaned by Parramatta Council
Lionel Walk
I'd invent Bush Walk( in replace of Grove Walk) for the unnamed pedestrian thoroughfare in Epping. The followings are Why. 1. The word "grove" just comes from the road name of Forest Grove that links to Bush Walk. So pedestrian is easy to know where Bush Walk is. 2. Bush Walk ( means Grove Walk ) refers to the history of the place where it was Grove, a place of Big Trees hundreds of years ago, described by Aboriginal Darug Elders in your letter and proved by local elders from whom I had learned. 3. In your letter, it says "The GNB encourages the creation of place names .....but must not be similar in spelling or pronunciation to other place names within a 10km radius of the site." So, the name Grove Walk has to be replaced by Bush Walk, which shares the almost same meaning as Grove Walk.
That's all. Thank you!
Bukbuk walk sounds so cute, children like it.
None thank you

It is disappointing and frankly a waste of residents time to ignore our first vote for the people who actually took the effort to vote such as myself and decide to proceed with a completely new set of names to meet some other diversity/indigenous agenda.
Why ask in the first place? Disappointed in the council's decision to value this over the time of its residents.
No
No
I think it was a great idea to engage a Dharug language consultant and had felt the original names were not appropriate as they had colonial undertones.
Submission mugaharu narrowleaf ironbark
Nil
It's a short pathway, so this seems most fitting. It would be good to fix the fencing and to add some solar lights too!
Maybe call it a laneway, pass or path, not walk.

## 6.2 Email submissions

<p>From: [Name supplied]  Sent: Sunday, 14 August 2022 1:28 PM  To: Place Services &lt;placeservices@cityofparramatta.nsw.gov.au&gt;  Subject: Unnamed Epping thoroughfare</p> <p>***[EXTERNAL EMAIL] Stop and think before opening attachments, clicking on links or responding. ***</p> <p>GUMAN WALK</p> <p>[Name supplied]</p>
<p>From: [Name supplied]  Sent: Wednesday, 10 August 2022 8:33 AM  To: Place Services &lt;placeservices@cityofparramatta.nsw.gov.au&gt;  Subject: Unnamed Epping thoroughfare</p> <p>***[EXTERNAL EMAIL] Stop and think before opening attachments, clicking on links or responding. ***</p> <p>My vote is Bukbuk Walk</p> <p>Thanks  {Name supplied}</p>
<p>From: {Name supplied}  Sent: Saturday, 13 August 2022 4:42 PM  To: Place Services &lt;placeservices@cityofparramatta.nsw.gov.au&gt;</p>



Subject: Name the pathway in Epping

\*\*\*[EXTERNAL EMAIL] Stop and think before opening attachments, clicking on links or responding. \*\*\*

I choose George Mannix for the name of the pathway He was an inspirational man who added much to our local environment

Sent from my iPhone

Attn: Senior Project Officer Place Services

Place Services Team

RE: Have Your Say – preferred name for an unnamed pedestrian thoroughfare Essex St to Forest Grove Epping, Epping

We write in response to the invitation to provide comments on the proposed naming, and proposed names, for the thoroughfare laneway between Essex Street (between 58 and 60 Essex Street) and Forest Grove.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment, and we have reviewed the four (4) proposed names. We provide the following comments:

- We commend Council for reviewing the naming of the laneway project to step back from the original proposed names and propose further names that reflect current community values and recognises the local indigenous traditional ownership.
- Of the 4 proposed names, we suggest the selection of either Garada Walk or Bukbuk Walk.
- Our reasoning for supporting Garada Walk is that the meaning, 'laneways / short paths, reflects what the laneway – a short path between the two streets.
- Our reasoning for supporting Bukbuk Walk is that, as long-term Epping residents, we have enjoyed the local owls that still visit the area (including our home and Forest Park).

Again, thanks for this opportunity, please contact Kevin should you wish to clarify or seek further information in respect to our comments.

As a related issue, with Council progressing the naming of this laneway, we ask Council to review the current planned timing for implementing its findings (by the Development and Traffic Services Section) for improving the pedestrian conditions in Forest Grove. Specifically, the traffic investigations undertaken earlier this year identified the need for a pedestrian island on Forest Grove at the egress point of the laneway onto Forest Grove. Whilst funding of this project was yet to be sourced at that time, we suggest that funding for the pedestrian island should now be found, especially with the naming of the laneway.

Regards

{Name supplied}

\*\*\*[EXTERNAL EMAIL] Stop and think before opening attachments, clicking on links or responding. \*\*\*

The lane connecting Forest Grove with Essex st Epping

The Landowner who was the original owner, after "The First Nations" people, had 5 acres at this location was R Hilliard JP He also constructed the first Place of Christian worship on this land before St Albans was constructed in Pembroke St.  
Investigate the Parish records for further information.

I suggest :

Hilliard's Lane

Regards

{Name supplied}

Dear Sir/Madam,

Hope this finds you well! I am {Name supplied}, from year 2 at Epping Public School.

I have two ideas for the Unnamed Epping thoroughfare in Epping.

One of them is the Longfence pathway.

The second idea is the Forestex pathway.

Best regards,

[Redacted signature]

End of survey.