

Attachment B

Community Engagement Report

Engagement report – Wiriyagan Place



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Overview

Project Background



Location of road

As part of the development of the Alexandria Canal Depot, a new private road was built. Naming this road is important for wayfinding and access for emergency vehicles.

Wiriyagan is a word from the Sydney Aboriginal language. The word is pronounced wirr-ie-yay-gan. It describes a low-growing fruit-bearing tree, either a prostrate banksia or a melaleuca.

The use of Aboriginal language, and the choice of a resilient local endemic plant species, shows respect to the men and women, including Aboriginal staff, who work at Alexandria Canal Depot. These City of Sydney employees are directly involved in looking after Sydney's trees, parks and wetlands.

This proposal recognises local Aboriginal cultural heritage through naming and related interpretive signs.

Council resolved at its meeting on 17 March 2025 to seek community feedback on the proposed name. This is the first step in officially naming the road.

Community engagement was conducted from 14 July to the 11 August.

Purpose of engagement

To notify the community of the proposal to name this road Wiriyagan Place and to gather feedback to determine community sentiment towards this proposal through multiple channels: online, onsite notices and physical letters.

Engagement findings summary

Overall sentiment

A large majority of overall respondents, 86%, supported the proposed name.

This included a submission from the strata organisation that manages the road (bcs strata) noting that the name was approved at their annual general meeting.

Outcomes of engagement

We received a total of **7 submissions** during the consultation.

The Sydney Your Say page was visited 121 times during the public exhibition period.

Quantity	Description of activity
7	Total submissions received
3	Survey submissions
4	Written submissions received via emailed
121	Sydney Your Say webpage visits
37	Document downloads

Demographic Data

Demographic data was captured from 3 of the consultation respondents.

Age

1 respondent was in the age range of 18 to 34, 1 was between the ages 45 and 54 and 1 was in the 55 to 65 age range.

Gender

2 woman and 1 man participated in the consultation.

Relationship to the area

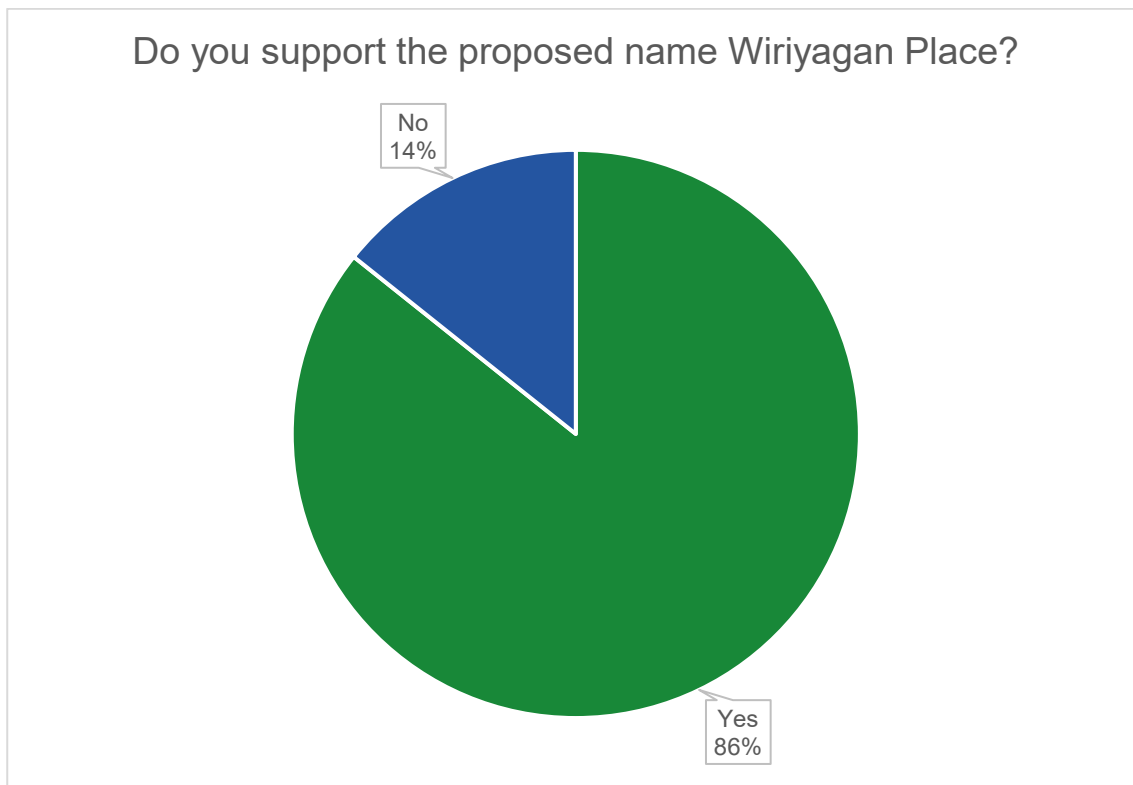
All 3 of these respondents work in the area. 1 also lives and owns property in the area.

Key findings

Overall sentiment

A strong majority of people supported the proposed name.

Overall, 6 submissions (86%) supported the proposed name and 1 submission (14%) did not support it.



Local stakeholders

The road we are proposing to name provides access to the City of Sydney Alexandra canal depot and depots operated by Woollahra Council and Waverley Council. Both Woollahra and Waverley councils were informed about the consultation and both responded, raising no objections to the proposed name.

The road is classed as a private road and is managed by the strata group bcs strata. This naming proposal was approved at their AGM held on 25 August, 2025.

Why people support or did not support the proposed name

People were given the option to comment on why they supported or did not support the proposed name. Submissions often mentioned more than one reason.

The most common reasons given in support of the proposed name were:

- Support Indigenous recognition (2 comments)
- Beautiful / cool name (2 comments)
- Support naming street with Indigenous language and local tree species (1 comment)

The reason given in opposition to the name was:

- Objection to 'virtue signalling' and names should reflect the wishes of local residents (1 comment)

Appendices

Appendix A: Communications overview

The following is a snapshot of outcomes of communications activities undertaken to support the consultation. Activities reached a range of audience segments via City of Sydney channels.

Activity	Outcome
Sydney Your Say webpage	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Sydney your say web page provided details of the street location, background for the origins of the name and a guide to pronunciation. A link to an online survey provided people with the opportunity to give their feedback. The page received 121 views during the consultation period.
City of Sydney letter	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Delivered to 58 local residents and businesses on 14 July. (75-meter radius from the road)
On-street signage	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> On-street signage was erected in 1 location at the entrance to the street.
Digital signage at Alexandra Depot	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A slide advertising the consultation was displayed on the digital screens at the Alexandra Canal Depot throughout the consultation period.
Sydney Your Say e-news	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Consultation was included in the Sydney Your Say e-newsletter on 15 July sent to 5003 subscribers and on 5 August sent to 4981 subscribers.
Cos News story	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The proposed naming of Wiriyagan Place was featured in City of Sydney News article 'New Aboriginal names for city spots', 29 July, 2025.

Appendix B: Communications activities


Sydney Your Say web page:

Public notices

Your say on the proposed name Wiriyagan Place, Alexandria

We're proposing to name a new road in Alexandria, Wiriyagan Place.

Alexandria

 **Under review**

Contributions to this consultation are closed for evaluation and review. The project team will report back on key outcomes.

PUBLIC CONSULTATION PERIOD
14 July 2025 to 11 August 2025

Why we're doing this


We invite your feedback on our proposal to name a new road in Alexandria, Wiriyagan Place.

As part of the development of the Alexandria Canal Depot, a new private road was built. Naming this road is important for wayfinding and access for emergency vehicles.

Gareth Jenkins

SENIOR COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT
COORDINATOR – CITY ENGAGEMENT

 [02 9265 9333](tel:0292659333)

 sydneyyoursay@cityofsydney...

COPY EMAIL ADDRESS

What we're doing

Wiriyagan is a word from the Sydney Aboriginal language. The word is pronounced wirr-ie-yay-gan. It describes a low-growing fruit-bearing tree, either a prostrate banksia or a melaleuca.

The use of Aboriginal language, and the choice of a resilient local endemic plant species, shows respect to the men and women, including Aboriginal staff, who work at Alexandria Canal Depot. These City of Sydney employees are directly involved in looking after Sydney's trees, parks and wetlands.

This proposal recognises local Aboriginal cultural heritage through naming and related interpretive signs.

Council resolved at its meeting on 17 March 2025 to seek community feedback on the proposed name. This is the first step in officially naming the road.

Web page continued:

 **Location map** 
PDF • 136.9 KB • Last modified 14 July 2025

Next steps

We will report the results of this consultation to Council for consideration.

How you can give feedback

Consultation closes at 5pm on Monday 11 August 2025.

1 Complete our survey

You'll need to log in with a City of Sydney account to complete the survey. If you don't have an account, it's easy to create one.

2 Email or post your feedback

You can give your feedback by email to sydneyyoursay@cityofsydney.nsw.gov.au or post to:

Gareth Jenkins
Senior Community Engagement Coordinator
City of Sydney
456 Kent Street
Sydney NSW 2000

Other ways you can give feedback

Talk to us in person	✓
If you are Deaf or have complex communication needs	✓
If you need an Interpreter	✓

Sydney Your Say E-newsletter

The naming proposal was featured in the Sydney Your Say e-newsletter in July and August 2025



Photo: Trevor Mein / City of Sydney

Naming proposals open for feedback

We invite your comments on a proposal to name [a small park in Camperdown, Daranggara Park](#), a [new road in Alexandria, Wiriyagan Place](#) and the [public space at 180 George Street, Ngana gili Plaza](#).

Read the proposals and give feedback by Monday 11 August.

[Read more](#)

On-site signage was displayed at the entrance to the road



Digital screens at the Alexandra Canal Depot featured a slide publicising the consultation to staff throughout the consultation period.

Have your say

We're proposing to rename the road off Bourke Street when you enter ACD - Wiriyagan Place.

Wiriyagan is a word from the Sydney Aboriginal language and is pronounced like wirr-ie-yay-gan.

Scan the QR code to give your feedback by Monday 11 August.

For details, contact Gareth Jenkins on 9265 9333.

CITY OF SYDNEY 



Consultation Letter

A letter from the Executive Director, Strategic Development and Engagement was delivered to 58 local residents and businesses on 14 July.



City of Sydney
Gadigal Country
456 Kent Street
Sydney NSW 2000

+61 2 9265 9333
council@cityofsydney.nsw.gov.au
GPO Box 1591 Sydney NSW 2001
cityofsydney.nsw.gov.au

14 July 2025
Our Ref: X116933.031
File No: 2025/392020

Your say on naming Wiriyagan Place, Alexandria

We invite your feedback on our proposal to name a new road in Alexandria, Wiriyagan Place.

As part of the development of our Alexandra Canal Depot, a new private road was built. Naming this road is important for wayfinding and access for emergency vehicles.

Wiriyagan is a word from the Sydney Aboriginal language. The word is pronounced wirr-ie-yay-gan. It describes a low-growing fruit-bearing tree, either a prostrate banksia or a melaleuca.

The use of Aboriginal language and the choice of a resilient local endemic plant species, shows respect to the men and women, including Aboriginal staff, who work at Alexandra Canal Depot. These City of Sydney employees are directly involved in looking after Sydney's trees, parks and wetlands.

This proposal recognises local Aboriginal cultural heritage through naming and related interpretive signs.

Council resolved at its meeting on 17 March 2025 to seek community feedback on the proposed name. This is the first step in officially naming the plaza.

Next steps

We will report the results of this consultation to Council for consideration.

You can provide your feedback and find more information about the proposal at sydneyyoursay.com.au

Submissions close at 5pm on Monday 11 August 2025.

You can also email submissions to our senior community engagement coordinator Gareth Jenkins at sydneyyoursay@cityofsydney.nsw.gov.au or call 02 9265 9333.

Yours sincerely

Kate Deacon
Executive Director – Strategic Development & Engagement

The City of Sydney acknowledges
the Gadigal of the Eora Nation as the
Traditional Custodians of our local area.

City of Sydney News Story, 29 July

PLANNING FOR THE FUTURE

New Aboriginal names for city spots

Trees and the night sky inspire titles for a local plaza, park and street.



📷 Darangara Park, Camperdown. Credit: Abril Felman.

Ngana gili Plaza, Sydney

Pronounced nga-nah-gilly. Ng as in sing.

A suspended canopy created by renowned contemporary artist and Kujila/Gangalu man Daniel Boyd defines the plaza at 180 George Street.

The proposed name for the space, Ngana gili, means 'black light' in the Sydney Aboriginal language.

It references astronomy and the movement of the sun and moonlight seen through the circles cut out of the artwork's black canopy.

Daranggara Park, Camperdown

Pronounced durr-an-garrah.

Cabbage tree palms have inspired the name for a redesigned small park on Lyons Road.

Daranggara is the Sydney Aboriginal word for these hardy local trees planted in the park.

Wiriyagan Place, Alexandria

Pronounced wirr-ie-yay-gan.

Wiriyagan Place is a private road that connects Alexandra Canal depot with Bourke Road.

Wiriyagan is a Sydney Aboriginal language word for a low-growing fruit-bearing tree, either a banksia or melaleuca.

These are resilient plant species common in the local area.

Employees at the depot care for Country, which includes looking after these trees.

Have your say

We're recognising Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander cultures and heritage in public spaces.

These names are drawn from the Sydney Aboriginal words documented in Jakelin Troy's book [The Sydney Language](#).

We're asking for your feedback on the new names.

[You can provide feedback](#) on the proposal by 5pm, Monday 11 August. Feedback will be reported to Council for consideration later this year.

Published 29 July 2025

More on [Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander](#)