

Item 4.

Naming Proposal - Hyperion Park and Kingsborough Way

File No: X010461

Summary

This report recommends that Council approve the naming of a new park and new road under construction within the development site at 906 Bourke Street, Zetland. The naming proposal originated from a request from the developer and is based on the heritage interpretation strategy for the site, which was previously a stable for thoroughbred race horses. The park and road are expected to be completed in mid-2018.

On 19 September 2017, Council resolved to provide in-principle approval to the names "Hyperion Park" and "Kingsborough Way" and to exhibit the proposal for public comment.

Ten submissions were received. Two were in support of the proposed park name and eight not in support. One submission was in support of the street name, and seven not in support.

"Hyperion Park" and "Kingsborough Way" are the recommended names which reflect the social history and former land use of the site.

Under the guidelines of the Geographical Names Board, the relevant roads authority is responsible for naming the public road. In this case, the Council of the City of Sydney is the roads authority. The Geographical Names Board is the authority for naming public places and the City is required to submit its proposed park name for consideration.

Recommendation

It is resolved that:

- (A) Council approve the name "Hyperion Park" for the new park under construction at 906 Bourke Street, Zetland;
- (B) Council approve the name "Kingsborough Way" for the new street under construction within the development site at 906 Bourke Street, Zetland;
- (C) an application be made to the Geographical Names Board for the naming of the park as approved in clause (A), in accordance with the Geographical Names Act 1996.

Attachments

- Attachment A.** Map Showing the Location of the Development
- Attachment B.** Resolution of Council 18 September 2017
- Attachment C.** Summary of Submissions

Background

1. A new park and public road are under construction within the development site bounded by Bourke Street, McPherson Lane and Merton Street in Zetland, which are expected to be completed by the developer in 2018.
2. The new 2,500 square metre park will provide green open space for recreation, play and social gatherings, whilst interpreting the former use of the site as a horse racing stable. Key features include a children's playground and picnic area, with shared paths for walking and cycling.
3. On 18 September 2018, Council resolved to provide in-principle approval to name the park "Hyperion Park" and the public road "Kingsborough Way" (refer to Attachment B).
4. The naming proposal originated from a request from the developer and the proposed names reflect the recommendations of the heritage strategy for the site.
5. Under the guidelines of the Geographical Names Board, the relevant roads authority is responsible for naming the public road. In this case the Council of the City of Sydney is the roads authority.
6. The Geographical Names Board is the authority for naming public places and the City is required to submit its proposed park name for their consideration.
7. The recommendation is to name the park "Hyperion Park" and the public road "Kingsborough Way". "Hyperion" and "Kingsborough" were thoroughbred race horses owned by Governor Sir Hercules Robinson who owned a historic racing stable located at this site.
8. The naming proposal was exhibited for public comment from 21 November until 18 December 2018. The proposal was advertised in The Sydney Central Courier and The Southern Courier and on the Sydney Your Say website. Public notices were installed on site and letters were posted to 354 surrounding properties.

Summary of Submissions

9. Ten submissions were received. Two were in support of the proposed park name and eight not in support. One submission was in support of the street name, and seven not in support.

Hyperion Park

10. One submission expressed general support and one submission thought the proposed name was suitable given the previous land use as a horse racing stable.
11. Of the nine submissions not in support:
 - (a) seven objected to naming the park in commemoration of the horse racing industry, which was perceived to be a cruel sport often causing harm to animals and generating negative social impacts associated with problem gambling;

- (b) one submission felt that the horse, Hyperion, was not significant enough to warrant commemoration, and one submission expressed opposition to commemorating the pets of white settlers; and
 - (c) two of the submissions expressed preference for names that celebrated Indigenous culture, including a suggestion that the park be called Eora Park, and one submission suggesting that the park should be named after people from “under recognised” groups such as women, or quiet achievers in the community.
12. Hyperion Park is the recommended name because the intention is to recognise the social history and former land use of the site as a racing stables, not to commemorate or show support for the horse racing industry. Hyperion was the name of a successful horse bred and trained at the former stables. Numerous elements of the park design reflect aspects of the former land use including wooden horses and seating areas which represent an imaginary stable (refer to the Heritage Interpretation Strategy, page 41).
13. Many City of Sydney parks and streets have Indigenous names and the City is progressively including formal acknowledgement of country messages on its park signs. The new park has no known significant connection to Indigenous culture. The City’s standard park signage featuring the traditional acknowledgement of country messaging “Bujari Gamarruwa” will be installed at the main park entrances.

Kingsborough Way

14. The submission in support expressed general satisfaction with the proposed name.
15. Of the seven submissions not in support:
- (a) five submissions objected to naming the park in commemoration of the horse racing industry, which was perceived to be a cruel sport often causing harm to animals and generating negative social impacts associated with problem gambling;
 - (b) one submission felt that the proposed name sounded too English and may be difficult to pronounce; and
 - (c) two of the submissions expressed preference for names that celebrated Indigenous culture, including a suggestion that the park be called Eora Way, and one submission suggested that the street should be named after people from “under recognised” groups such as women, or quiet achievers in the community.
16. Kingsborough Way is the recommended name because the intention is to recognise the social history and former land use of the site as a racing stables, not to commemorate or show support for the horse racing industry. Naming the street after a race horse bred and trained at the former stables is intended to match the thematic design and proposed name of the adjacent park (which contains two wooden horses).

Key Implications

Strategic Alignment - Sustainable Sydney 2030 Vision

17. Sustainable Sydney 2030 is a vision for the sustainable development of the City to 2030 and beyond. It includes 10 strategic directions to guide the future of the City, as well as 10 targets against which to measure progress. This report is aligned with the following strategic directions and objectives:
 - (a) Direction 4 - A City for Walking and Cycling - the new park and street are currently without names. Naming the park and street are necessary for wayfinding.
 - (b) Direction 9 - Sustainable Development, Renewal and Design - new roads, parks and community facilities are created through city development and urban renewal.
 - (c) Direction 10 - Implementation through Effective Governance and Partnerships - the public park and street are being delivered by a developer in accordance with the terms of their planning agreement with the City.

Organisational Impact

18. Naming the park and street will not have any significant organisational impact. The City's standard park signage, featuring the park name, acknowledgement of country message, regulatory and interpretive content will be installed when the park has been constructed. Street signage will be installed by the City following completion of the road.

Social / Cultural / Community

19. The recommended names "Hyperion Park" and "Kingsborough Way" reflect the social history and former land use of the site as a successful horse racing stable.

Budget Implications

20. Funds are available in current operational works budgets for the installation of the park and street signage.

Relevant Legislation

21. The Geographical Names Act 1966 - the recommended park name meets the Geographical Names Board guidelines for the naming of parks.
22. The recommended park name, if supported by Council, will be submitted to the Geographic Names Board NSW for their consideration and assessment in accordance with their process for the naming of places.
23. Under guidelines of the Geographic Names Board, the relevant roads authority is responsible for naming of roads.

24. The Roads Act 1993 and Roads Regulation 2008 - the City is the relevant roads authority with jurisdiction over the site. Following Council approval, the City as roads authority must publish a notice of the naming in the NSW Government Gazette, and in a local newspaper and must inform Australia Post, the Registrar General and the Surveyor General, giving sufficient details to enable the road to be clearly identified.
25. The recommended names comply with the City's Draft Naming Policy.

Critical Dates / Time Frames

26. The street and park are expected to be completed and open to the public in mid-2018 and late 2018 respectively.

Options

27. Council may choose to adopt alternative names. This is not the preferred option.

Public Consultation

28. The process for naming public places generally proceeds as follows:
 - (a) in principle approval by Council of the proposed name (completed);
 - (b) public notification of the naming proposal with a minimum 28 day response time (completed);
 - (c) Council approval following community consultation (pending);
 - (d) assessment by the Geographic Names Board NSW and subsequent publication in the NSW Government Gazette (pending).
29. The Geographic Names Board will also notify the public through the local press as part of their routine procedure for the naming of public places. If objections are raised, the proposal is returned to Council for further comment or amendment if required.

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