

Attachment D

Summary of Submissions

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Submissions in Support of Louisa Lawson Place = 1 general support

Submission in Support of Girard Plaza = 1

General Theme	Comments	Response
The Plaza should be named to commemorate Francois Girard.	Francois Girard has a direct connection to the site (Louisa Lawson does not) because he named the adjacent Napoleon Street which was his access lane to his flour mill and wharf. The mill would have been located almost at the exact location of the plaza. (1)	Community consultation during the previous (Napoleon Plaza) naming proposal generated 3 submissions in support of Girard Plaza.
	Francis Girard is worthy of commemoration – his accomplishments, against all odds include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Teacher of dance, French language and fencing; • Successful business man who opened a coffee shop and patisserie in Hunter St; • Was a publican; • Ran a bakery business supplying bread to the military; • Built a wharf, flour mill and windmill; • Developed a fleet of merchant ships to transport cedar; • Sold everything to move to the country to become a farmer. (1) 	Council opted to defer naming the site and requested the Chief Executive Officer to develop an alternative naming recommendation for consideration by Council, preferably recognising an Aboriginal or female leader with historical association to the area.

Submission expressing preference for Napoleon Place = 1 general support

Submissions in Support of Napoleon Plaza

General Theme	Comments	Response
	Napoleon Plaza is a better name than Louisa Lawson Place for wayfinding (39)	
	The name Napoleon name has strong association with this area and the name is in use at Napoleon Street, Napoleon Steps, and Napoleon Apartments (40)	

Wayfinding	Although not a requirement, it seems logical to combine the names of adjacent parks/places and their street addresses to assist wayfinding. This is already common practice in Sydney at sites such as Lang Park – Lang Street; Munn Reserve – Munn Street; Argyle Place Park – Argyle St for example (36)	As noted in the submissions, the Napoleon name does have long and continuing history of use in the locality.
	Using a familiar and memorable name such as Napoleon will assist in emergency management (people will know the location to report incidents and direct services to the site (31) The Napoleon name would be more familiar and strike a chord with visitors and international tourists. (37)	
	A locally and internationally well-known name is more likely to attract visitation to the area (20)	
Commence	The Napoleon name may prompt people to think about Sydney’s multicultural past and encourage learning about the history of the site. (23)	The Napoleon name is already in use on nearby assets such as the Napoleon Steps, Napoleon Bridge and Napoleon Street. Interpretive signage has not been installed at these sites to inform users about the use of the name.
	A site name featuring the Napoleon Name, which is significantly more well-known would better promote the area and generate business for local retailers and other businesses. (20)	A well-known name would be more familiar to visitors however it is unknown if this would enhance retail visitation.
	The French had important influence on the history and development of Sydney. The explorer Nicholas Baudin visited Sydney on Napoleon’s instructions to draw maps of the area (one of which shows the land on which the plaza now stands) (32).	The City’s draft Naming Policy
	Although the relationship between Napoleon and Australia may be loose, so too is the relationship between many other historical people with places named after them eg George, Elizabeth and Victoria (1)	
	Napoleon has an indirect connection to the site via Francois Girard, who reportedly named the access lane to his harbour-side business, Napoleon Street (31)	

Multiculturalism		principles encourages names that reflect the multicultural nature of our society.
Social Inclusion	France was the first major country to legalise gay relations which were subsequently codified by Napoleon in his Napoleonic Code of 1810 – a document widely regarded to have influenced the whole world. Napoleon could be regarded as the first effective gay liberator of the modern era. It is timely to name the site to commemorate Napoleon’s historic influence on advancing gay rights (26)	The City’s draft Naming Policy principles encourages names that reflect inclusion and the gender diversity of our multicultural society.
Social History	The area has long and continuing associations with the name Napoleon some of which date back 180/200 years (53)	Napoleon Plaza was initially used by TfNSW during planning and construction of the area. TfNSW requested the City (as the relevant Roads Authority) to consult the community about the proposal to name the site Napoleon Plaza. This consultation generated mixed support and opposition to Napoleon Plaza (4 submissions in support and 9 submissions opposed). Community support for Napoleon Plaza seems to have significantly increased in the latest consultation.
	Sections of the site once formed part of Napoleon Street and may still be titled so. (33)	
	Napoleon Plaza was the name used by TfNSW during planning and construction of the site. (4)	
	The name Napoleon Plaza is already well functioning and is well used locally (12)	
	The name was previously supported and recommended by the City’s Historian (2)	
Louisa Lawson	Louisa Lawson has no direct linkage to this specific site. Her offices and businesses were located elsewhere in	Though not located at this specific site,

Critique	Phillip Street and Jamieson Street (44)	Louisa Lawson's business interests were located nearby in Central Sydney (at Phillip St and Jamieson Street).
	Louisa Lawson should be commemorated at the site of her business properties on Phillip Street (1)	
	The link with Louisa Lawson seems tenuous and the use of her name therefore seems tokenistic (1)	Though not located at this specific site, Louisa Lawson's business interests were located nearby in Central Sydney (at Phillip St and Jamieson Street).
	A busy plaza constructed of concrete with no greenery is not a fitting site to commemorate a country born woman (2)	
	There are other more appropriate sites named after her including Louisa Lawson Reserve in Marrickville where she lived (46)	Louisa Lawson is commemorated at Louisa Lawson Reserve, Marrickville and a number of other sites including a housing development in Bondi.
	During her time, Louisa Lawson would have been literally out of place in this area primarily associated with the male dominated waterfront industries. It is unlikely that she would have wished to visit the site (29)	
	It is inappropriate and disrespectful and an insult to her memory to name a site located in front of a public hotel after Louisa Lawson, who often spoke out about the ills of drinking and gambling ((20)	
	The Plaza will be the future gateway to the Barangaroo Casino which is a further insult to her name (3)	
	The proximity of the site to a large pedestrian tunnel (Wynyard Walk) may open her name to disrespectful crudity or jokes. (15)	It is noted that many submissions have advanced views that aspects of the site including its aesthetic and location seem inappropriate for the commemoration of Louisa Lawson. However, the general public are not expected to share such views.

<p>Submission from the Sussex Hotel Management and Property Owner</p>	<p>Additionally note that their property and business was impacted by the development of the plaza which resumed part of their drive way and access.</p> <p>They feel that their location directly adjacent to the plaza, as owners of the Napoleon Steps and the adverse impacts of the development of the plaza on their property and business should be taken into account and contribute to their status as a major stakeholder in the naming proposal.</p> <p>They note that the earlier naming proposal was not effectively communicated to local business owners and staff resulting in the previous apparent low support for the name Napoleon Plaza.</p> <p>They note that the current consultation has had a much wider and deeper reach into the local business community resulting in the significantly increased support for Napoleon Plaza through the current consultation (as evidenced by their 326 name petition in support of Napoleon Plaza).</p>	<p>The submission and supporting comments of the Sussex Hotel and the property owner are noted.</p>
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