

ORDINARY MEETING	4
22 MAY 2024	

PROPOSAL TO RENAME KENRICK STREET PARK AND FISHER ROAD PARK, GORDONVALE TO “PYRAMID PARKLANDS GUJURA”

73/2/21 | #7325541

RECOMMENDATION:

That Council renames Kenrick Street Park and Fisher Road Park to “Pyramid Parklands Gujura.”

INTERESTED PARTIES:

Dulabed Malanbarra Yidinji

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

Council is constructing Stage 1 of the Kenrick Street Park Masterplan, a destination park that serves the wider Gordonvale community and will cater to future residential growth in the area. The current name for the park was created after the subdivision of land several decades ago, which typically involved parks being automatically named after the streets adjacent to the park.

A more suitable name that is fitting for this significant park that the whole community will resonate with is therefore proposed. Community consultation was carried out in February 2024 to determine the community’s preference for the name of the park. Pyramid Parklands was suggested the most by the public and reflects the connection between the Gordonvale Community and Walsh’s Pyramid which towers over the area. The proposed name meets the naming criteria in the Naming of Community Infrastructure Policy (the Policy).

In accordance with the Policy, Council requested a name from the traditional owners that reflects their cultural connection to the site. “Gujura” was suggested by the traditional owners and refers to the leafy bushy plants that will be part of the site when landscaping is developed as part of the project.

The recommendation of this report is that Council renames Kenrick Street Park and Fischer Road Park, “Pyramid Parklands Gujura.”

BACKGROUND:

Kenrick Street Park and Fisher Road Park is located on the eastern side of Dempsey Street and the western side of Fisher Road, Gordonvale and contains three separate parcels of land. There is no substantially improved recreation space in Gordonvale for the community west of the Bruce Highway. A Masterplan for the site was developed and approved by Council on 12 June 2019 proposing significant improvements to meet the need of the existing and growing community. Stage 1 of the Masterplan is under

construction with a completion date target for December 2024. Stage 1 improvements include pathways, lighting, CCTV, landscaping, irrigation, toilets, shelters, seating and benches, a substantial play area, multicourt, pump track, learn to ride, BMX jumps, car parking and a fenced dog off leash area.

When parks are created as part of a subdivision, they are assigned the name of the adjacent street – hence the names for this park reflecting the adjacent street names. With substantial improvements underway for what will become a key focal point and destination park for the wider area, it is proposed to give the space a new unique name that reflects the parks own character and resonates with the community.

COMMENT:

A park naming consultation was undertaken from 1 February to 22 February 2024. The community were asked to suggest names in accordance with the Naming of Community Infrastructure Policy (the Policy). Letters were sent to local residents, signs were installed at the site, posters were placed at local shops and parks, and a range of media platforms were used to inform the public of the process and invite them to suggest names.

A summary of responses received is as follows:

- 72 responses received,
- 44 different suggested names,
- 14 names were of local individuals,
- 8 names were of a phrase or word, e.g. Parkie McPark Park,
- 5 names were suggested more than once,
- 7 names complied with the Policy, and
- The most popular suggestion was Pyramid Parklands (11 times) followed by Parky McPark Park (10 times) and Gordonvale Bogan Park (3 times).

The Policy requires that Traditional Custodians/Owners be acknowledged by providing the opportunity to dual name parks. Names with local Indigenous cultural significance with a strong connection to the park/area are to be considered and are encouraged.

The Traditional Owners for the area requested that Council dual name the park using the word “Gujura” which refers to very bushy or leafy trees which will adorn the park. During the public consultation for the park renaming, the public were advised of the proposed Traditional Owner name for the park. There were many positive comments and support for the name, and no objections to it.

An assessment of the suggested names against the Policy revealed that seven provided a high degree of compliance with the Policy, however most of these were suggested on only a single occasion. Only Pyramid Parklands was suggested on multiple occasions.

OPTIONS:

Option 1: (recommended)

That Council renames Kenrick Street Park and Fisher Road Park to “Pyramid Parklands Gujura.”

Option 2:

That Council does not rename the park and retains the current park name.

CONSIDERATIONS:Risk Management:

The main risk associated with renaming the park is the community response to the name change. Given the popularity of the name submitted, the dominant visual presence of Walsh's Pyramid over the immediate landscape, and the connection the Gordonvale Community have with the landmark, there is little concern for any adverse community reaction to the name.

Council Finance and the Local Economy:

The costs associated with renaming the park are included in the project budget and relate to park signage. A new suite of signage is required for the park as part of the project regardless of the park name.

Community and Cultural Heritage:

Dulabed Malanbarra Yidinji have informed Council that the park was used by Traditional Owners mostly to traverse through, however it was rarely used by them for any other purpose. It was not used as a camp or settlement which were found mainly along the Mulgrave River.

The Naming of Community Infrastructure General Policy encourages names chosen by Traditional Owners that provide an historic connection of significance to them. The policy also allows for parks to be named after prominent local landscape features that have significance to the local community. The proposed park names provide a high degree of compliance with the park naming assessment criteria in the policy. It is noted that Walsh's Pyramid is also known as "Djarragun" by local traditional owners. This name is also used for a local college. However, it was not chosen by the traditional owners to use this name in this instance.

The land was transferred to Council in the 2000s and was previously used for sugar cane farming. Prior to that, it was used as a haulage route for timber being moved from the tablelands to the coast and Cairns area for construction purposes or to be shipped to other locations.

Policy:

The recommendation of this report complies with the provisions of the Naming of Community Infrastructure General Policy

ATTACHMENTS:

Attachment 1: Location of Kenrick Street Park and Fischer Road Park



Tim Dendle
Executive Manager Community Spaces



Destry Puia
Director Lifestyle and Community

Attachment 1: Location of park indicated by the dropped pin.

