

8.2. Ben Boyd Road Renaming Survey Results

AUTHOR: Ian Hoskins, Council Historian and Jenny Gleeson, Manager Corporate Planning and Engagement

ENDORSED BY: Rebecca Aukim, Acting Director Community and Library Services

ATTACHMENTS:

1. Attachment 1. Survey Findings [8.2.1 - 10 pages]
2. Attachment 2. Submissions Summary [8.2.2 - 33 pages]

PURPOSE:

The purpose of this report is to advise Council on the results of the community opinion regarding the renaming of Ben Boyd Road and outlines the implications of both proceeding with renaming or retaining the street name.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

On 26 April 2021, the North Sydney Council resolved to seek community feedback on renaming of Ben Boyd Road. This followed recent and widespread public discussion of the legacy of Ben Boyd, a colonial entrepreneur and Neutral Bay resident who, in the 1840s, pioneered the practice of securing cheap labour from the South Sea Islands which came to be known as 'blackbirding'. The appropriateness of the ongoing commemoration of Boyd through place names such as Ben Boyd National Park and Ben Boyd Road was part of this discussion.

In addition to gauging support for a name change, feedback was sought from those supportive of a name change on three alternate names broadly consistent with the Geographic Names Board's (GNB) naming requirements as outlined in the *Address Policy and User Manual, 2019*:

- Barangaroo Road - chosen because it commemorates the Cammeraygal woman, Barangaroo, on her own land.
- Neutral Bay Road - chosen because of its obvious geographic relevance. However, there is a Neutral Street in North Sydney.
- Reconciliation Road - the most unique of the three alternative names.

The community was made aware of this consultation via the website, social media, Council's newsletter North Sydney News delivered to every household and a direct letter to the property owners along Ben Boyd Road and surrounding streets, including Ben Boyd Lane. Feedback could be provided via an online survey or submission.

In accordance with the Council resolution, the survey/online feedback form asked respondents whether they support renaming Ben Boyd Road, Neutral Bay - yes, no or unsure. The following table collates the total 2,318 responses received, inclusive of 2,131 survey responses and 187 submissions, indicating that more respondents support retaining the existing road name, than support a name change. Submissions contained considered content rather than a simple statement of preference.

Submission Type	Yes	No	Unsure/ Not stated
Survey	978	1,132	34
Submissions	48	135	4
Total	1,026	1,267	38

This breaks down to 53.1% of survey responses against a change and 45.9% in favour; and 72% of submission responses against a change with 26% in favour. Accordingly, the report recommends the retention of the name of Ben Boyd Road.

The clear preference for retaining the name Ben Boyd Road and the implications of changing the name should be carefully considered before proceeding with any change. Many of those who opposed a name change felt very strongly about the issue. Some regarded it as an attempt to 'rewrite' history. Given the strength of opinion change of name will not necessarily unite or reconcile the community.

It should be noted that, should the Council resolve to apply to the GNB for a name change, there is a risk that the proposed alternative may be rejected. Furthermore, there will be implications (financial, logistical, public safety and personal) for those who live along or own property on Ben Boyd Road should the road name change. Residents and business owners would be burdened with notifying correspondents, utilities, customers etc of the change. This is time consuming and potentially costly.

With regards to the historical record, it is also the case that Council has had restored the two plaques installed in 1931. The larger of these is soon to be reinstalled with another plaque outlining the story of Boyd's place in Australia's historical narrative. With that, the naming of Ben Boyd Road will be put in context, and residents and visitors can decide for themselves the nature of the man and his deeds.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS:

There are 20 Council installed street signs referring to Ben Boyd Road. The cost of replacing these in terms of materials and labour will be approximately \$6,200. There will be costs related to staff time spent altering addresses in Council's various databases and lists. Should Council resolve to proceed with a name change, subject to GNB approval, budget would need to be allocated to this project.

RECOMMENDATION:

- 1. THAT** Council retains the name of Ben Boyd Road due to the majority of respondents opposing a name change, the overwhelming opposition to a name change from Neutral Bay residents and the practical and financial burden of change that would entail for those people.
- 2. THAT** Council reconfirm its resolution of 24 May 2021 to install a third interpretive plaque near the original two.

LINK TO COMMUNITY STRATEGIC PLAN

The relationship with the Community Strategic Plan is as follows:

4. Our Social Vitality

4.4 North Sydney's history is preserved and recognised

5. Our Civic Leadership

5.3 Community is informed and consulted

BACKGROUND

Ben Boyd was a colonial entrepreneur and Neutral Bay resident who, in the 1840s, pioneered the practice of securing cheap labour from the South Sea Islands which came to be known as 'blackbirding'. In 1842 as many as 200 men from present-day Vanuatu and nearby islands were transported to New South Wales with the intention that they work as shepherds on Boyd's extensive sheep runs in the Monaro region. The scheme attracted considerable concern and criticism, some of it stemming from its similarity to slavery – then only recently banished from the Empire in a series of legal measures through the 1830s and early 1840s. Boyd left colony in 1849 leaving considerable debts and polarized opinions about his business practices. He was killed in the Solomon Islands in 1851. Ben Boyd Road which led down from Military Road to Boyd's former property on the Neutral Bay waterfront, Craginathan, was so-named around 1880 as the first subdivisions were appearing. In 1931, two plaques were installed by North Sydney Council and the Royal Australian Historical Society near Boyd's former house, close to the corner of Ben Boyd and Kurraba Roads, to mark the 80th anniversary of Boyd's death. That memorialization probably marked a high point in the public estimation of Boyd's legacy. In 1992 Faith Bandler, activist and daughter of a 'blackbirded' South Sea Islander, wrote to Council requesting that Ben Boyd Road be renamed.

More recently public awareness of Boyd's activities and legacy in the context of the Black Lives Matter movement has raised questions about the appropriateness of memorializing him with the retention of the name Ben Boyd Road. Formal and informal correspondence with Councilors and Council officers indicated that some within the community thought re-naming should be considered whilst others wanted the name retained.

On 26 April 2021, Council considered Notice of Motion 7/21 and resolved to seek community feedback on the renaming of Ben Boyd Road.

- 1. THAT Council resolves to survey community opinion regarding a re-naming of Ben Boyd Road.*
- 2. THAT Council uses the established survey process of Council's "YourSay" program to conduct the survey.*
- 3. THAT the survey questions ask: (a) if the respondent is in favour of re-naming Ben Boyd Road (yes/no/unsure), and if yes then (b) what is the respondent's preferred new name (if any), based on a suggested list of three candidate names plus the option for the respondent to write-in their own alternative suggestion.*

4.THAT the suggested list of three candidate names consist of: at least one name derived from the indigenous history of the area; at least one name derived from the non-indigenous history of the area; and a maximum of only one name being the name of a person.

CONSULTATION REQUIREMENTS

Community engagement has occurred in accordance with Council’s Community Engagement Protocol. The detail of this report provides the outcomes from the engagement for Council to consider.

DETAIL

Community feedback was sought via a survey, to determine whether there is support for a road name change and, if so, what the preferred name might be. Three options were offered. Respondents were also given the opportunity to present their own suggestion. The three options were prepared in-house in accordance with the abovementioned Council resolution.

Option 1 - name derived from the indigenous history of the area	Barangaroo Road - Barangaroo was a Cammeraygal woman. Her country therefore spanned present-day North Sydney. She was the wife of Bennelong. A woman of strong personality, she was frequently mentioned in early colonial accounts. The headland at Darling Harbour is named after her. The name Barangaroo Road acknowledges that North Sydney was her place.
Option 2 - name derived from the non-indigenous history of the area	Neutral Bay Road - This name simply refers to the location and destination of the road. It is a major thoroughfare through Neutral Bay and down to the Bay itself.
Option 3 - other	Reconciliation Road - There are some 60,000 descendants of South Sea Islander people brought to Australia, often under duress, to work as cheap labour on sugar plantations in northern Queensland. It was Ben Boyd who pioneered that practice of indentured labour or ‘blackbirding’. The commemoration, and indeed celebration, of Ben Boyd is deemed hurtful by many of the descendants of those transported to Queensland. The name Reconciliation Road acknowledges that feeling.

The opportunity to provide feedback was promoted in accordance with the project-specific engagement strategy prepared for this proposal as follows:

- Notification letter - sent to 5,202 property owners along Ben Boyd Road and surrounding streets;
- Council’s website (News item link to the YourSayNorthSydney page) - 505 views;
- YourSayNorthSydney site - 3.43K views, of these:

- Notice of Motion 7/21 - downloaded 44 times;
- Notification Letter - downloaded 36 times;
- Engagement Strategy - downloaded 19 times.
- article in the June 2021 issue of North Sydney News - distributed to all households (n=36,000);
- social media posts - 17 June 2021:
 - Facebook - 16,464 reach, 10,964 post clicks, 1,735 click links, 197 reactions, 12 shares and 84 comments;
 - Twitter - 2,805 impressions, 117 link clicks, 13 reactions, 21 shares and 38 comments;
 - Instagram - 1,249 impressions, 194 total engagements, 92 detail expands, 37 link clicks, 3 retweets.

Formal feedback was invited via an online survey and submissions. Informal feedback was also received via social media. As noted by the statistics provided above, promotion of the opportunity to participate in this consultation reached a wide audience across all social media platforms. Whilst there were many comments in response to Council’s posts these have not been treated as submissions. It is noted that many are responses to other comments. Individuals interested in providing feedback to Council were advised to do so via the survey or submission.

Following is analysis of the online survey and submissions.

Collated Analysis

In accordance with the Council resolution, the survey/online feedback form asked respondents whether they support renaming Ben Boyd Road, Neutral Bay - yes, no or unsure. The following table collates the feedback sources, inclusive of 2,131 survey responses and 187 submissions, indicating that more respondents support retaining the existing road name, than support a name change.

Submission Type	Yes	No	Unsure/ Not stated
Survey	978	1,132	34
Submissions	48	135	4
Total	1,026	1,267	38

Survey Findings

The survey results are summarised in Attachment 1. Of the 2,131 survey responses, 53.1% (1,132) do not support changing the road name, while 45.9% (978) are in favour and 1.6% (34) were unsure.

Of those in favour of a name change, the preferred new name from the options provided was:

Option 1 - Barangaroo Road	414 (42.3%)
Option 2 - Neutral Bay Road	256 (26.2%)
Option 3 - Reconciliation Road	207 (21.2%)
Option 4 - Other	101 (10.4%)

Attachment 1 details the 'other' name suggestions provided.

Submission Findings

Attachment 2 shows the 187 submissions received. There are 91 online submissions and 96 written submissions. One is from a Precinct Committee.

Most submitters (72%) are not in favour of changing the road name, while 26% were in favour of a name change.

Submission Type	Yes	No	Not stated
Online	15	78	1
Written	33	57	3
Total	48	135	4

Of those in favour, the preferred new name from the options provided was:

Preferred new name	Online	Written	Total
Option 1 - Barangaroo Road	9	5	14
Option 2 - Neutral Bay Road	6	4	10
Option 3 - Reconciliation Road	6	1	7
Option 4 - Other	13	5	18

The following details the 'other' name suggestions received. Some of the submitters in favour of an alternate name change provided multiple suggestions, whilst others provided none. Additionally, some of the suggestions listed below were provided by submitters not in favour of a name change. Few are acceptable as options because they contravene GNB Policy regarding the use of a person's full names or duplicate existing thoroughfares. Others are obviously difficult to spell and pronounce. The following sample are listed alphabetically:

- Ash Barty Road
- Cammeraygal Road
- Gooreedeeana Road
- May Gibbs Road
- Pearl Gibbs Road
- Peter Norman Way
- Petroglyph Road
- Taldumande Road
- Ted Mack Road (x2)
- Watkin Tench Road
- Wéyé or Weeawya Road (refers to Careening Cove, which the road also leads towards)
- Wurru-birri or Wurrubirri Road (relates to the western side of Kurraba Point)

The most common reasons for opposing a name change were:

- History cannot or should not be changed by such a measure
- The inconvenience and expense of such a change

Process for Changing a Road Name and implications of doing so

It should be noted that changing the name of a road or street has serious financial, logistical, public safety and personal implications those who live along, or own property on, that road. Residents and business owners are faced with the burden of notifying correspondents, utilities, customers and so forth of the change. This is time consuming and potentially costly. It may be impossible to do so with long-standing friends across the world. Emergency services may be compromised if responders do not have up-to-date information. Some residents have a personal attachment to an address, particularly if they have lived there for an extended period. Changing that without their consent can be upsetting.

The issue is also procedurally complex. The three alternative names presented to the community, in accord with Council's resolution, were selected because they broadly comply with the Geographic Names Board's (GNB) Address Policy and User Manual, 2019. However, any new name must be approved by the GNB and it was not possible within the time frame available to find suitable names - that is names that were relevant, easy to spell and in accordance with the resolution - which did not carry some risk of rejection.

For example, the GNB stipulates that proposed road names must not duplicate names existing within 10km. Barangaroo Road was chosen because it commemorates Barangaroo, the Cammerygall woman, on her own land. Indeed, it was the most popular of the alternative names in the survey. However, Barangaroo is now an established site in Darling Harbour and Barangaroo Avenue is a road near there. The GNB may reject it for that reason.

Neutral Bay Road was chosen because of its obvious geographic relevance. However, there is a Neutral Street in North Sydney.

Reconciliation Road, the most unique of the three alternative names, was the least popular among respondents.

Aboriginal word lists for the local area were consulted but the most unique and relevant names were difficult both to pronounce and spell, making them impractical as alternatives. Roads are different to parks and other sites. They are residential and commercial addresses and therefore must be easily communicated and comprehended for public safety and logistical purposes.

Several respondents suggested other names. However, many of these, such as Pearl Gibbs Road and Ted Mack Road, are not permissible as the GNB does not accept both a given and surname to be used. These would, therefore, need to be Gibbs Road or Mack Road. Their commemorative roll would thereby be compromised.

The very reasonable suggestion that consultation be had with Sydney's South Sea Islander community will entail further discussion and the need for more local community consultation if another name is suggested.

Many of those who opposed a name change felt very strongly about the issue. Most regarded it as an attempt to 'change' or 'rewrite' history. Given the strength of opinion, any change of name will not necessarily unite or reconcile the community which is one of the purposes of such as change in the minds of supporters.

With regards the historical record, it is also the case that Council has had restored the two plaques installed in 1931. The larger of these is soon to be reinstalled with another third plaque outlining the story of Boyd's place in Australia's historical narrative. With that the naming of Ben Boyd Road will be put in context and residents and visitors can decide for themselves the nature of the man and his deeds.

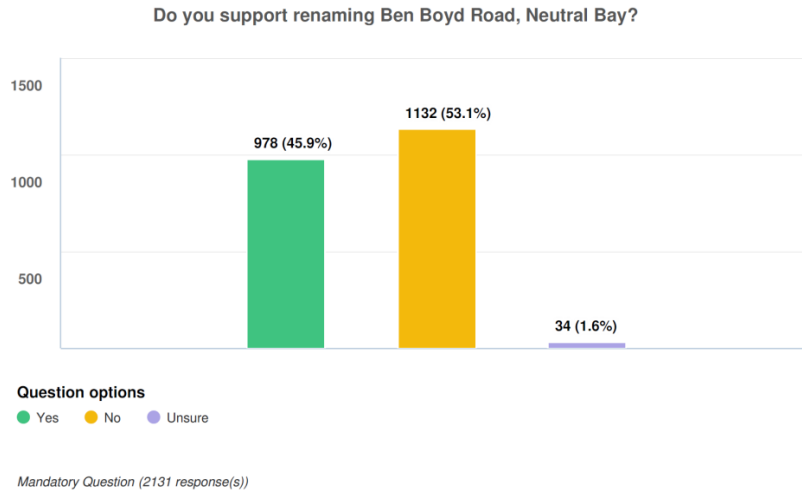
Recommendation

Following consideration of the stakeholder feedback received, and the implications involved with changing the name of a street this long, it is recommended that the name Ben Boyd Road be retained, and that respondents be advised of the outcomes of this consultation.

Attachment 1. Survey Findings

The survey ran from 16 June to 18 July 2021. There were 2,131 respondents. The results have been analysed inhouse.

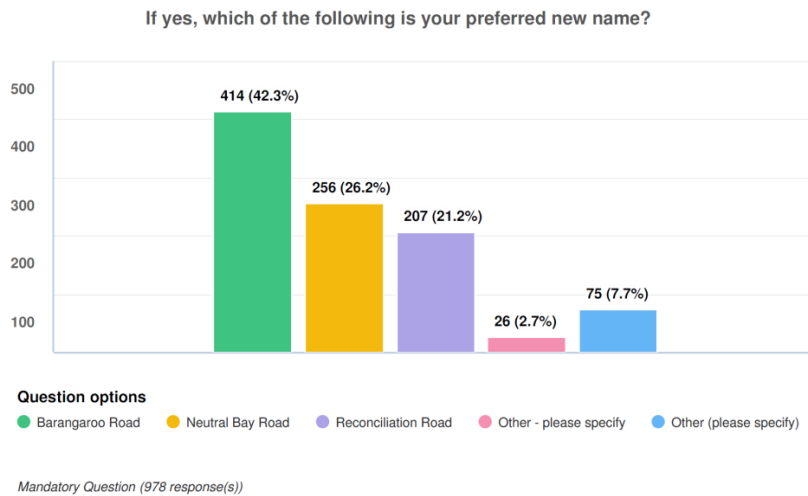
Q1. Do you support renaming Ben Boyd Road, Neutral Bay?



The majority (53.1%) of respondents do not support the remaining of Ben Boyd Road. 45.9% do support renaming, whilst 1.6% are unsure, as shown in the above graph. Note: 10 respondents selected more than one answer e.g. Yes/Unsure (7), No/Unsure (2) and Yes/No/Unsure (1), their first selected preference is noted in the above statistics.

Q2. If yes, which of the following is your preferred new street name?

Per the Council resolution, respondents in favour of a name change were asked their preferred name from the three options provided or other. Of the 978 respondents in favour of a name change, the majority (42.3%) prefer Option 1 - Barangaroo Road, followed by Option 2 - Neutral Bay Road (26.2%) and Option 3 - Reconciliation Road. 26 (2.7%) prefer other - please specify and 75 (7.7%) prefer other (please specify).



The following table details the reasons provided in support of the proposed alternate names (selected extract from the General Feedback section of the survey of the respondents in support of a name change¹ indicating sentiments towards each preference).

Option	Reasons/Feedback
Option 1 - Barangaroo Road	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Renaming Ben Boyd Road is a gesture of respect that harms no one, and brings us closer to reconciliation. It is not "erasing history" as some claim (I never learned about history through "road names"). It is simply a decision to not 'celebrate' an individual who does not represent the values of most Australians today, and whose name is triggering for many indigenous Australians. • Remove remnants of racist British colonial rule. • It's pleasing to vote for a name that positively commemorates and honours an even earlier resident - Barangaroo. • I think it fitting that the road be renamed after one of our indigenous ancestors. • I can live with any of the alternatives but am drawn most to Barangaroo Rd as it acknowledges and connects with our indigenous past. • Great idea to rename and love the idea of naming after a strong indigenous woman. • Love the idea of coming to terms with our colonial past and celebrating the original owners of the land. • We need to acknowledge the pain and hurt caused by men like Ben Boyd and changing the name of the street is essential in this process. • I'm a young resident of Cammeray, and am proud of the indigenous land I live on. Thank you for giving me the opportunity to give my opinion and to hopefully provide respect to the custodians past and present. • Barangaroo Road is a gorgeous name and has a fantastic history attached, to have Ben Boyd's acknowledgement replaced by that of a strong woman of indigenous descent is so so brilliant too. • We want our area to reflect the people we aspire to be. We aren't denying history to change the road name, we are denying any ongoing tribute to Ben Boyd. • It's a great idea and brings awareness to a new generation of residents who may not otherwise have known who Ben Boyd was. I certainly didn't. I didn't even know Barangaroo was an indigenous woman from Cammeraygal and the North Sydney area. When it changes, there should be some kind of plaque explaining the history of the street name change and why it was an important step forward. • I love the fact that Barangaroo was a Cammeraygal woman - this should be celebrated. • Barangaroo, or another Aboriginal name, is a suitable replacement given how little of the Cammeraygal people remains in the area through proximity to initial European colonisation. That heritage should, and must, be continuously celebrated. • We need to acknowledge our history and more importantly our First Nations people. We need streets named after people we can be proud of. • Barangaroo was an incredible figure and it's a fitting name change. • It is time to respect indigenous Australians, including Australian South Sea Islanders. But I feel that an aboriginal name would be most appropriate provided indigenous leadership for the area agrees. • I lived on Ben Boyd Road and I believe this name is the most fitting. • Great opportunity to move with the times and recognise the area's aboriginal history.

¹ Note: the survey did not specific ask responses to detail reasons for their preferred alternative from the options provided.

Option	Reasons/Feedback
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • It is very appropriate to rename this road and to provide more information on the original Barangaroo. I had no idea that she was an influential local woman. You will be honouring a woman as well at the Aboriginal connection. • We have to face up to our histories and those that symbolize. Individuals whose great wealth acquired through indenture and the enslavement of individuals. This is not some naive woke quest to solve all our problems at once. This is about showing our community that we as a city and as a people are able to acknowledge, understand, reconcile and most importantly choose a better future... • This would be a most suitable name, given this Aboriginal woman is significantly linked to this area. I also think it's time to be using names that are connected to the Aboriginal heritage of NSW and Australia. • I think more use of aboriginal names is very important. • I would vote for Barangaroo if that is actually appropriate from an indigenous perspective otherwise I would talk to Cammeragyl groups for a new name. • I think changing the name that turns the honour of one person towards another is an ideal swop. Allows people to find out more about the deep roots of this area and spark curiosity for the life of Barangaroo. • The name should be changed to reflect the area's indigenous history. I don't love Barangaroo because it is so closely associated with the casino but it's better than reconciliation. • Please could you consult the local first nation people to select a name they would like. If Barangaroo is suitable to them, by all means. I would like to see more historical information about the first people who lived in Neutral Bay. What did they call Neutral Bay before it was named by Europeans. • Are you kidding? Name it after a strong woman! She will keep this dark lit road safe for young women like me who never walk down it at night. I need Barangaroo. This feels so right. • I like Barangaroo Rd. I believe it warmer than the other two options and a nice nod to first nation populations of the area. • I think it is fitting that the road be named after Barangaroo as she was a strong Cammeraygal woman from the North side of the Harbour and there is nothing on this side named after her. • The idea of naming the road after a Cammeraygal woman who would have traversed that area and been a strong influence on her people appeals to me.
Option 2 - Neutral Bay Road	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Barangaroo Rd would be very confusing as Barangaroo is on the other side of the Harbour. At least Neutral Bay Road is logical and makes geographic sense. • Neutral Bay Road is simple, appropriate, will aid modern technological navigation systems, and will be a name that can be embraced by all. • Neutral Bay Road is my first preference, Barangaroo Road would be my second preference. • Neutral Bay Road is a more than amicable change. There need not be any commemoration for the road which is anything, but significant or need not be offensive, at least. • As a major road through Neutral Bay, I think it is a sensible choice to name the street after the location and it would help with wayfinding for people new to the area. My feeling is that 'Barangaroo' would be confusing to newcomers for the same reason - since there are other well-known areas in Sydney now named after Barangaroo. While I'm unsure about this 1st option, I would want that final decision to be in the hands of Aboriginal people. I also support it being renamed as Reconciliation Road. I think it would be a rebuttal to the idea that renaming is an erasure of history - making it clear that is actually a reevaluation of history, and decision about the present. • Neutral Bay is more related and made it easy to identify the suburb.

Option	Reasons/Feedback
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Barangaroo Road is not as geographically relevant, especially due to Barangaroo in the CBD. Reconciliation Road is slightly over the top in my opinion, unless a larger project was undertaken along the street, identifying sites of cultural significance. Neutral Bay Road is geographically relevant and has the potential to be iconic. • This name change is a side issue, however, if it is to be changed Neutral Bay Road will be least controversial. • Reconciliation Road is a nice gesture but remains a gesture only when there are other more worthwhile and effective ways to acknowledge this. Barangaroo Road can be confusing because it might indicate that it leads to Barangaroo. Neutral Bay Road is a clear indication to the user of where this road leads to and is simple and easy to remember. • Barangaroo Road is likely confused with Barangaroo Avenue in the city. Reconciliation Road trivializes the important concept of reconciliation, and suggests a reconciliation can occur just by a few name changes. Neutral Bay Road is relevant and innocuous. • Ben Boyd Road is a substantial road. I would name it for suburb. • My feedback is that Barangaroo Rd is a great suggestion, however confusing for tourists or people who don't reside in the area and might be confused for Barangaroo, the suburb. • Please do not call it Reconciliation Rd. What a joke! • Neutral Bay Road makes logical sense maybe find a way to incorporate aboriginal heritage in to a location along the road. • Barangaroo reminds me of the area in the city. Which I think could be confusing- implying the two are near each other, or that the road takes you there. • don't support renaming the road but I have selected my preference for a new name in the event a majority of the community does support this change. The survey would have been better worded 1. Do you support renaming ...? Then 2. If the decision is made to rename, which of the following is your preferred new name? This wording would give Council a more accurate view of public opinion, rather than only giving renaming options to those who want the renaming to proceed. • The name of the Road should identify the area.
Option 3 - Reconciliation Road	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Most appropriate because of my child's ancestry. • The naming to Reconciliation Road brings awareness to the mistreatment of the south sea islanders as well as the local indigenous population. It's a small step in the right direction. • It is an obvious choice. • I think it is amazing that we are taking past wrong doings into consideration. As a young Australian, it gives me glimpses of hope that we can move forward with reconciliation and unity. • I was surprised to read the history of Ben Boyd, and certainly think the name needs to change, acknowledging the many descendants of the South Sea Islander people bought here through slave labour. • I believe this name is best among the three. I do like Barangaroo but feel it may cause confusion with addresses and suburbs. • Relates to current views of Australia. • It is not right to honour a person like this, a kidnapper and slave owner. I agree that the history of this event should not be forgotten or expunged, yet honouring Boyd by keeping the name is not the only way to do this. The road could be renamed in honour of the kidnapped south Sea islanders instead, which is another way to remember the history of the place. For this reason, I propose reconciliation road, 'south sea islander's road'.

Attachment 8.2.1 Attachment 1. Survey Findings

Option	Reasons/Feedback
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • It's a street sign, yes - but it stands for something that shouldn't be celebrated. No harm in changing it, and we'd be better off (and on the right side of history) for changing it. • Great initiative to rename this road. • In my opinion, Barangaroo would also be acceptable, but I would be cautious of placing too much emphasis on the individual which can alienate them from their context - that they were an individual within a community. But I would defer to whatever recommendations the Aboriginal Land Council or other relevant First Nations community bodies you have consulted with might make. • Our society is a product of the stories we tell. Let's choose to tell a better story. • Or some other female Aboriginal name. I kind of feel that Barangaroo has been used a lot. What about a local fruit or plant used by the Aborigines? • As a proud North Sydney resident I consider it my responsibility to vote the way I have. Let's fix this. • Provides context • Reconciliation is a word that should penetrate our lives in hope that we can one day be one people. • I don't live in North Sydney, but I work there and with many Aboriginal and First Nations people. I think reconciliation is very important. • Would suggest to add a sign to explain the reasons for the name change, so future generations will learn about blackbirding and mistakes that have been made in the past. • It's a significant gesture and an increase in awareness of the despicable acts committed. • It is not censorship, it is no longer choosing to give prestige and title to a blackbirder. • It is important to acknowledge that what happened in the past was wrong, we can't celebrate white men who made their fortune by taking advantage of others. • I believe Reconciliation Rd would be a great alternative to Ben Boyd as it pays respect to the damage made and those who suffered as a result. • I am supportive of any of the name options as long as it changes. I live on Ben Boyd Rd and had no idea of the history of Ben Boyd until recently. It makes me feel uncomfortable that the road is named after him now that I know his history. I think Reconciliation Rd would have the potential to create conversation about the change and this is a step we need to move towards as a community. • This is a great thing to do. • Healing begins with reconciliation. • I'm not convinced that the name must be changed but, if it is to be changed, my choice is Reconciliation Road. • This encourages future generations to know that it's not ok to simply forget the pains and injustices of the past, but to learn from them and move forward. Naming it in any other way appears to only cover up the problem and not resolve it. • If the renaming doesn't happen, I believe at least some other reconciliation effort needs to happen (e.g. relevant Ben Boyd signage, not just the current romantic plaques) to show we acknowledge, but no longer honour such practices (blackbirding) from our colonial past. • If the name causes offence, then Reconciliation Road is the right choice, as that is the aim of making a change.
Option 4 - Other; please specify	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Unfortunately Barangaroo Rd or Reconciliation Rd are very well meaning but too long and hard to spell. I definitely support changing the name, however

Option	Reasons/Feedback
	<p>would much prefer a name that is easy to say and spell (having the surname of Cuthbertson, I have too much experience in this field of difficulty). Surely we can find a better local aboriginal name.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Change to a local indigenous name. • Renaming the road Barangaroo Road feels like a cover up 'bandaid' or 'slap on an Aboriginal name and it'll be ok'. Neutral Bay road will just encourage more traffic and it doesn't need it. Reconciliation Road is trite. Strongly advise against that name. • Barangaroo road is confusing (big development across bridge). Cannot find less imaginative than Neutral Bay Road, Neutral Bay and Reconciliation Road is tokenism. I suggest Gumnut Road: 1) it is from a native plant of Australia, 2) it is a reference to the characters of notable resident May Gibbs, 3) it is cute. • I am in favour of adopting a name from indigenous Australians in the local area. However Barangaroo is now associated with the area in the, CBD therefore confusing and already taken. Surely there is an appropriate indigenous name that can be used, have you asked any first Australians historically connected to the area? • Should be named something else Indigenous, but not Barangaroo as that's already well known. Could be used to highlight a less well-known historical Indigenous woman. • Cammeraygal Road. The problem with Barangaroo Road is potential confusion with the development across the harbour. We can acknowledge the original owners of country? • Hi the local indigenous word of indeed a representative South Sea Islander word for 'whale' might be better than Barangaroo and have sympathy for other victims of Boyd. The locality "Barangaroo" is on the other side of the Harbour and many would expect that "Barangaroo Rd" would be the main road of that locality; i.e. the flipside of why Neutral Bay Rd is sensible but very dull. While local indigenous are entitled to reconciliation, Council's letter does not suggest that they were victims of Boyd so that choice seems an appropriation of the victimship of South Sea Islanders.

In summary:

- many suggest the new name should be determined in consultation with the local community and the Sea See Islander communities that were the subject of Ben Boyd's activities and/or Aboriginal community/leaders/traditional owners.
- common feedback regarding the use of an indigenous name (Option 1) is the need to consult with First Nations people regarding whether the proposed name/s and/or which alternate suggestions would be most suitable; indicating a high sense of awareness for the need to recognise, celebrate and promote the Aboriginal heritage of the Neutral Bay area, and to do so respectfully and in accordance with protocols.
- Reasons given against Option 1 related to the possibility of confusing its location with the area so-named in Darling Harbour.
- There were no specific negative issues raised regarding Option 2:
- Reasons given against Option 3 was the difficulty of spelling and tokenism.

101 (10.4%) respondents prefer an alternate name suggestion (listed alphabetically/not in any priority order):

- A name that reflects the history and contribution to Australia of the people who Ben Boyd enslaved - the Australian South Sea Islander community. Contact should be made with the Australian South Sea Islanders Association to provide an opportunity for this group to suggest a name. I think this is more

culturally sensitive than choosing between names selected by council. In addition, it is a step towards reconciliation and atonement.

- Another local and significant indigenous person's name i.e. not Barangaroo. Given the Barangaroo area at the harbour the name might be confusing in a different and unrelated location/A different indigenous name that won't get confused with Barangaroo/I would like an Aboriginal name, but do not like Barangaroo due to its strong connection to the Barangaroo Point and therefore potential for confusion. I don't think there is a major road named after the Cameraygal people and I think that would be an appropriate name. Again, I would like to hear from local Aboriginal people about this/I like the Bangaroo option but think it would be confusing with the other side of the bridge. How about asking the Aboriginal community; it's important they have a voice/The name should be in consultation with the local Aboriginal Elders and community/A name supported by traditional owners/Must be indigenous or South Sea Islander but not Barangaroo as it's been 'done'. I propose using other indigenous 'Dharug' names such as Darug/Dharug, Birrong ('Stars'), Madung ('Brave') and Midjigan/Gumal ('Friend'/'Friendship')/An Indigenous name would be good but Barangaroo has already been taken by the new area in Darling Harbour/Name it after a local First Nations individual/ A local indigenous person or location/A name developed in conjunction with the Aboriginal Heritage Office which allows people to learn about the local First Nations culture and history/I love the idea of naming for the indigenous history of the area, but I think Barangaroo Rd is too confusing given that Barangaroo is now so related to the area north of Darling Harbour/Suggest we engage with our local First Nations peoples and related experts and select a name appropriate to the location. This may mean adding a couple more names to the survey, or opening up the name to a competition/If there are any alternate names of the same idea, like other prominent aboriginals from the area I would prefer that/The street should be renamed using suitable First Nations nomenclature.
- Ash Barty Bouelvarde
- Bay Road
- Billy Blue Road
- Birrong Road (stars)
- Butbut Road (heart)
- Cammerra Road - from the 'Aboriginal North Sydney' reading².
- Cammeraygal Road (x8) - this acknowledges the traditional custodians of the land Neutral Bay is on. Barangaroo is performative, as is Reconciliation, both not really meaning anything to indigenous people Cammeraygal land.
- Charles Perkins Road
- Choose the name of another person important in the history of our suburb.
- David Milton Drive
- Dharug Street
- Edwin Street
- Eora Road
- Garrigal Road
- Gumnut Road
- Is there a person or historical event of significance to the development of the area?
- Jilly Gibson Road
- Kameraigal Road
- Kingsford Smith Road
- Kookaburra Rd
- Leveaux Road

² In 1790, Phillip made one of the first records of Aboriginal naming in the north Sydney area, referring to the district on the 'north west part of this harbour' as 'Cammerra' with its 'chief' named 'Cammerragal' (Historical Records of NSW, Vol.1 p.309.) Phillip did not understand clan structure when writing this, as a singular chief was not typically found in Aboriginal groups. One of his senior officers, John Hunter, wrote that Camme-or-gal was 'a great warrior' of whom the British had 'heard much' and who 'lives in the interior part of the country'. He followed that with an apparently unrelated reference to the 'tribe of Cammera' from 'the north side of Port Jackson'. Cammera, therefore, seems to be the name for present-day North Sydney. A painting of a man called Cammeragal was created in the first years of colonisation but this individual does not appear in the record at any other time raising questions about the accuracy of the account. If there was a single dominant warrior figure for the north shore one might expect he would be regularly involved in interactions with the newcomers.

- Lilardia Road - in honour of aboriginal activist Margaret Tucker (abor. Lilardia) who I understand was forced to work as a domestic servant in Neutral Bay/Margaret Tucker who was one of the earliest female Aboriginal activists. She was taken from her family at Wangaseda in New South Wales in 1917 at the age of 12 and trained as a domestic servant at the Cootamundra Girls Home. She was sent at 16 to a wealthy grazier's family in Neutral Bay as a domestic servant, but was abused in her first placement and sent to another family. She ran away but was caught and sent into service again in Walgett. She stayed in service until 1925 and spent her adult life campaigning for Aboriginal rights and welfare. Tucker, also known as Aunty Marge and Princess Lilardia, was one of the founding members of the Australian Aborigines League in Victoria in 1932 and one of the organisers of the National Day of Mourning in Sydney in 1938. In 1968 she became the first Aboriginal woman to join the Commonwealth's Ministry of Aboriginal Affairs. She was awarded an MBE in 1968.
- May Gibbs Road (x2)
- Most roads in Sydney that long and connecting such distinct places tend to follow indigenous tracks. So why not ask a language expert how such a track might have been named. See where that leads to as a name. I think it might lead to something cool like Fish and Oyster but in Yuin-Kuric.
- Name it after one of the Islanders that Ben Boyd displaced/Something that acknowledges the South Sea Islanders but not Reconciliation Road, because that will be mixed up with Indigenous reconciliation.
- Name the road after endemic flora/native flora or fauna
- Neutral Bay Wharf Road
- Neutral Way
- Nutcote Road (housing May Gibbs)
- Oaks Road
- Petroglyph Road - for the rock carvings that have been built over all up the road. Gets to the point.
- Peter Norman Way
- Roady McRoad Road/Ready McRoad Face/Roady McRoad Face
- Snowy Road
- South Sea Islanders Road
- Ted Mack Road (x2)
- The Great Divide
- Waratah Road
- White Mouse Road
- Wirra-Birra Road (x4)/Wirra-birra, the local people's name for the area/Wirra Birra Road (x5)/ Wirra Birra the Cammeraygal name for the area/Wirrabirra meaning place of many trees/What about something like Wirrabirra Rd? (Based off wikipedia which says the Aboriginal name for the area was wirra-birra - obviously not the most reliable source!)/ Wurrubirri Road (x4) - Wurrubirri is the indigenous name of the area west of Kurraba Point, aka Neutral Bay. Source: <https://australian.museum/learn/cultures/atsi-collection/sydney/place-names-chart/>/Whatever the correct indigenous name is for that particular area of Neutral Bay.
- Wriggle Road

Of the 34 'unsure' respondents, the following reasons were provided (not listed in any priority order). It is noted that of these, the preferred option from those presented was Barangaroo Road subject to support/qualification:

- We should wait for the outcome for the name review of Ben Boyd National Park. This 1 month consultation is too short, seems rushed. My leaning is towards a name change. Many actions and opinions of people pre - 1900 seem abhorrent to us. Some of Abraham Lincoln's opinions were atrocious. Celebrating his achievements, which came later on was probably based on an incomplete and select view of him.
- Regardless of the role Ben Boyd played it is part of our countries history [sic]. We can remove it and pretend it didn't happen.
- Will Council be supporting residents of Ben Boyd Road to change all information relating to their address with providers?

- Would probably support changing it if other options were worthwhile. Alternative options are either boring (Neutral Bay Rd), don't make sense (would be confusing having Barangaroo Rd in a different suburb to the actual suburb in CBD) or too long (reconciliation).
- Although Barangaroo Rd would be a fitting tribute to the Cammeraygal woman, I feel with Barangaroo Reserve, railway station etc across the harbour, it would be rather confusing.
- Unsure on this but Barangaroo Road would be acceptable if agreed to by indigenous community.
- I don't necessarily support renaming of places, unless it is a specific site of significance, e.g. Uluru. As much as I support reconciliation efforts, I don't agree that scrubbing reminders of our colonial past is for the best - how can we learn from the past if it is hidden away like a shameful secret? If renaming was to occur, all the local businesses on the street should be given an allowance to update their relevant collateral - this can be a very costly exercise for small business. I would prefer Neutral Bay Rd of the three options, Barangaroo is already well known as a Darling Harbour/CBD location. Reconciliation is just a bit cumbersome in terms of addressing things.
- If you must rename it, I would oppose Barangaroo Road as it seems it's surely enough to have a whole headland named after somebody. I would also oppose Reconciliation Road as it just seems lame. Neutral Bay Road is the obvious and non-contentious choice.
- This is a difficult problem. On the one hand, blackbirding was an appalling practice which stained Australian colonial and post-colonial history. On the other, as a qualified historian who has written several books, I deplore the airbrushing of history; you have to take the good with the bad, and a trend in this direction distorts the accurate practice of history. My only query is just who or whom are responsible for this campaign, and what are their motives?
- I'm not particularly offended by the existing name. Actually, I quite like it: it's alliterative. However, I'm looking at that as a name only, disassociated with the history of the person. What I would suggest though, is that the Council remove the plaque at the bottom end of Ben Boyd Road which actually talks about who this person was. If you want to stop revering the guy, you need to start by removing a wall plaque that explicitly draws attention to him. The road name itself is of little consequence to me personally and, like most other road names, I don't give them much of a thought except when my sat nav calls them out.
- I think Council has better things to worry about.
- I would like more detailed information about the descends who oppose this name - Ben Boyd Road.
- History - good or bad is history and cannot be removed. Though honouring a person more bad than good is possibly not a positive step. There must be more names than Barangaroo - which is completely over used with the new development - surely there are other famous indigenous people who could be honoured! Absolutely not 'reconciliation road' - this is a name trying to hard to be part of a process.
- Ben Boyd Rd has had that name for a long time, so I suspect people will still call it by the name they have always known. There is another Barangaroo so potential for confusion. Any name like Reconciliation Rd seems demeaning to me. A name that reflects geography seems best e.g. Neutral Bay Wharf Rd or similar.
- I believe that an Indigenous Australian/group of First People to be consulted and that it is not the decision of non-indigenous people to decide. We are on Cammeraygal Land, and therefore, an Indigenous Australian from this area, or who knows this area, should be consulted and asked how to deal with this naming/recognition. While I think it is important not to celebrate slave owners, it is also important to not speak for other groups or perpetuate the white saviour complex (refers to a white person who provides help to non-white people in a self-serving manner).
- Having worked in the field of Australian history for most of my life, I find most Australians have little knowledge of our history and probably many did not know who Ben Boyd was, at least they are informed above. He did commence black birding and I thought initially at least put a notice at the side of illustration of his ship in Neutral Bay explaining more of his history. I am a supporter of indigenous history and this was Cammeraygal territory and think any adopted name change should honour these people, the name would honour Bennelong's wife but as you say the name Barangaroo is used at Darling Harbour. So why not just call it Cammeraygal Road if it is decided to change the name. Also I would like to see the area of bushland, once Cammeraygal land, at the Yeo Street which leads to the parkland have all the weeds, overgrowth etc., removed from that area and a notice acknowledging their land there as well and a railing put down the few stone steps that lead from Bent Street into the bush area. It is dangerous truing to down the stairs at present.

- If the name is to be changed I would vote for Barangaroo Road, last choice would be Reconciliation Road.

General Feedback

The following lists the verbatim general feedback/comments provided by respondents, grouped by the common themes for and against:

Theme against change	Verbatim Comments
History cannot be changed	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ‘To my opinion the history can’t be changed and what happened in the past can’t be erased.’ • ‘We cannot change our history and many of those who played significant and positive roles in the development of the European settlement, up to the present day, may also have been involved in activities which, while acceptable at the time, are distasteful to us now. This does not mean we have to erase them from our history, nor should we.’
The cost of change	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ‘What will be the cost of the name change? Also think about the disruption to residents this change will bring.’ • ‘It would take a great deal of time and money for the residents, utilities, map makers, electoral rolls, taxi companies etc to alter this street name. It is a very long road with a large number of multi-storey buildings along with single households. I can’t imagine the cost and inconvenience this change would cause to hundreds of people and companies if this is allowed to go ahead.’
Theme for change	Verbatim Comments
Opportunity to celebrate Indigenous history	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ‘I was overjoyed to see that North Sydney Council asked for feedback on the name of Ben Boyd Rd. I would love to see it changed and I think option 1 (Barangaroo road) pays tribute to our local indigenous culture and history.’
Need to confront history	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ‘We cannot change history, but we should learn from it.’
Should not honour Boyd	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ‘In an age when we understand the terrible harm done to indigenous people through their exploitation by colonialists, it is highly inappropriate to honour a person who engaged in blackbirding.’

ATTACHMENT 2**Ben Boyd Road Renaming Survey****Summary of submissions received during consultation period 16 June to 18 July 2021**

No.	Name and Address	Submission	Position
1	Adrian Hickey 5/9 Ben Boyd Rd NEUTRAL BAY	How very woke, fashionable and disruptive. I would have thought there were better things to do with Council's time and money than trying to change history. Apart from blackbirding Boyd did many outstanding things for the colony of NSW and the area of Neutral Bay. In any case he got his come-uppence by being eaten by Melitan cannibals - as a plaque and gravestone there states. "Disruptive" is used because in this era of computer identification matching, an address change must be matched to all other computer records, especially governmental and medical, without access being denied. Is council going to undertake this task? Perhaps the money saved could be put to rubbish bins along Military Road (maybe look at re naming that) where rubbish is constantly left at the bus stops.	NO
2	Alena Lipscher Highview Ave NEUTRAL BAY	In my opinion the name should stay, I am against renaming Ben Boyd Road. To my opinion the history can't be changed and what happened in the past can't be erased. It was the normality of the time and in my opinion the cancel policy is wrong. It can be explained what Ben Boyd did in positive or negative way, but you can't erase his person. The Road was named after him, because surely he did also good things for the community.	NO
3	Angela Guildford 25/50 Aubin St NEUTRAL BAY	I am definitely against changing the name of Ben Boyd Road. We cannot change our history and many of those who played significant and positive roles in the development of the European settlement, up to the present day, may also have been involved in activities which, while acceptable at the time, are distasteful to us now. This does not mean we have to erase them from our history, nor should we. I do hope common sense prevails on this matter and we retain the name Ben Boyd Road.	NO
4	Ann Fuller	Did Ben Boyd Road have a name before it was gazetted as Ben Boyd Rd? If it did, perhaps I could understand why all this money is being wasted to appease the pervading and evermore powerful "Cancel Culture". It won't matter in a few years anyway, because all our roads, parks, monuments etc will be renamed. They will become Yang Rd, Beijing St, Xi Jinping Statue. Stop wasting money.	NO
5	Annee Robbins 2/58 Kurraba Rd NEUTRAL BAY	Speaking as a resident of Neutral Bay for 29 years, living just off Ben Boyd Rd, I am strongly against the renaming of Ben Boyd Road. I have never considered the naming of Ben Boyd Rd as a celebration of him...but more an acknowledgment of his contribution to the district from his time, as with Alfred Thrupp and Patrick Hayes etc. There are many practices of times gone by that are now considered unacceptable but if you open that can of worms where does it end, you can't go round renaming everything. The alternatives are not at all appealing. Barangaroo Rd is too associated with Barangaroo established near Darling Harbour but is the best of the three. Neutral Bay Rd is too repetitious with the suburb. And Reconciliation Road makes me want to relocate. In short, it is what it is...and better to remain to promote discussion and awareness of inappropriate practices of the day...than to bury it. It will also cause unnecessary confusion and hassle with the changes residents and businesses will have to face...we have way more pressing things to deal with at the moment.	NO
6	Atholene Gunn 3/7 Grasmere Rd CREMORNE	I see absolutely no reason whatsoever to rename Ben Boyd Road. It would simply be a "feel good" gesture which would not improve anyone's everyday life. Surely there are more important things to spend time and money on in the North Sydney Council area. For example, are all footpaths in the best possible condition for people to walk on?	NO
7	Attlia Fekete	My family and I have been rate paying residents of Neutral Bay for 35yrs, the last 22yrs of which our home has been 'Bengallala' at 16 Ben Boyd	NO

Attachment 8.2.2 Attachment 2. Submissions Summary

No.	Name and Address	Submission	Position
	16 Ben Boyd Rd NEUTRAL BAY	<p>Road Neutral Bay. The title of the Council’s correspondence is either an incorrect use of the English language or, infers the decision has passed the consultation stage and is simply seeking comment given, the ‘Proposed Renaming of Ben Boyd Road’. If the latter is the case, the suggested consultation stage is simply a façade to hide a decision made in absentia of the voting residents and, falls outside the charter of the elected Councillors. In the event the Council letter is genuinely an attempt to seek Community Consultation, please note that I oppose any name change to Ben Boyd Road. Furthermore, while I accept the Council is required to hear the opinion of all sectors of the community, as our elected representatives Councillors are required to act in the best interests of the majority of rate payers. I’m unaware of any broad community movement to change the name of Ben Boyd Road and as is often the case, the loud utterances of a few do not represent the silent majority. The name ‘Bengallala’ attached to our home is of no particular significance to the previous owners nor ourselves however, I respect it has a place in the history of our home, the history of Ben Boyd Road and, the history of North Sydney, and I would therefore not wish to deny its heritage. Our home is nominated as one of many places of interest in and around the neighbourhood. The historic relationship between Ben Boyd Road and Bengallala should therefore be respected. Ben Boyd’s activities and his life created work and means of survival for many, his agricultural pursuits were of staggering proportions relative to the time and, he was held in high regard by many in authority and in the community. If the Council gives this ‘name change’ any further oxygen, it will bring into question the independence of Councillors, ensure little potential for some to be re-elected and open a ‘pandoras box’ to every possible crackpot social agenda.</p> <p>In conclusion, I noted in the last Council newsletter that the Ben Boyd plaque removed from its wall mounting on Ben Boyd Road where it had been on display for well over 50yrs, has been removed for restoration. I seem to recall the plaque was removed without prior notice (possibly another response to zealot social engineering). While the restoration of the plaque is taking longer than one might have expected, would the appropriate Council representative please advise where the plaque is being restored, can it be viewed and more to the point, when will it be reinstated in its original mounting? One would hope the restoration and reinstallation isn’t being delayed by Council due to a possible name change rendering the plaque just another victim of distorting the history of Neutral Bay.</p>	
8	Brian Gatfield 44 Aubin St NEUTRAL BAY	<p>I am strongly in favour of the proposed renaming of Ben Boyd Rd. I live on Ben Boyd Rd and I feel that the small inconvenience of notifying various businesses and government agencies about my change of address, would be worth ensuring that Mr Ben Boyd is no longer honoured by having my street named after him. In an age when we understand the terrible harm done to indigenous people through their exploitation by colonialists, it is highly inappropriate to honour a person who engaged in blackbirding. One argument I have heard for opposing the name change is that "You can't change history". I find this argument quite disturbing because it implies that the perspective of white settlement in Australia, even an episode that caused such terrible harm, is of greater worth than the wide range of histories of a diverse Australia of 2021. I hope that you will take this point of view into account when considering the renaming of Ben Boyd Rd.</p>	NO
9	Bob Lawrence 18 Anglo St CHATSWOOD	<p>I wish to advise that I do not support the renaming of Ben Boyd Rd, Neutral Bay. There is much misrepresentation of the life and activities of Ben Boyd, in the quite copious literature. One such book on this topic, which seems to have become popular reading is Marion Diamond’s biography of Boyd, which from the very first chapter tends to be more of a character assassination than a truthful biography. The book is full of cynical observations and subjective interpretations of Boyd, or anyone in any way connected with Boyd working to develop the economy of the still struggling colony in the early 1840’s. Particular cynicism is reserved for those in Britain and NSW, wishing to bring more free settlers from the old country to NSW to enable this growth. There were thousands in Britain who would have jumped at the chance as long as their voyage was funded. Apparently the Parliament in London resisted this initiative. Labour was a desperate problem for Boyd in the mid 1840’s. This is but one context that is relevant to the life of Ben Boyd in this period.</p> <p>The life of Ben Boyd has attracted much interest, as it had many turns and had very considerable impact on the NSW colony barely 50 years after its beginnings. May I attempt a short précis of relevant parts of Boyd’s life and times? Boyd grew up in a good family, but did not have a financially easy start in life. After many generations of ever growing land ownership, commercial success and political and social influence, the Boyd family at</p>	NO

Attachment 8.2.2 Attachment 2. Submissions Summary

No.	Name and Address	Submission	Position
		<p>this generation had to face the ignominy of financial ruin due to the bankruptcy of their father. Boyd and his siblings had to rebuild the family's future, and he was definitely the leader, and set about this task obviously with courage and skill. He was physically and intellectually a powerful man. He is reported as being of a relaxed demeanour, which his detractors report as being too' laid back'. This makes him a bit of an Aussie to me. His achievements certainly refute this assessment. At the age of just 24 he and his brother Mark were running their own growing and successful stock broking firm. He is reported as being extremely financially skilled and over the next 20 years, his influence grew to holding board positions and chairmanships of several major London financial enterprises. He obviously was progressing fast, and he enjoyed the good things of life, he was brought up to this. By now he was an influential member of London's financial fraternity. He was a member of the Royal Yacht Squadron, and had his own magnificent 140 tonne yacht, which he was able to parade at Cowes, called the Wanderer. His detractors, and some of his biographers, paint him as a playboy. The facts do not seem to accord with this. Hopefully he was enjoying life, but achievements such as his are not made without ability and focus.</p> <p>He was a single man and stayed so all his life. Reports of love not returned, may have been a contributing reason for his South Seas venture. By his forties, Boyd no doubt had his own considerable financial wealth. His was a character to continue to achieve and he was among several other very successful men of that period to seek commercial success in faraway places of the realm. He owned, or part owned, several vessels, as other also did, sufficient to take him comfortably to these places. Boyd obviously spent some time preparing for this venture, and there were some delays for which he was criticised at the time and also now by biographers, and for which there were no doubt good reasons. In 1841 Ben Boyd sailed for Sydney, in his own vessel Wanderer RYS, with a considerable entourage, including other ships he owned. His trip was supported at the highest level of Government in England working directly with the Colonial Secretary, Lord John Russell. His goal was to develop the resources of Australia and the South Pacific. Before leaving England he had established the Royal Bank of Australia with nominal capital of 1 million pounds, this being his ongoing investment platform. He encouraged other competent business people from London to physically join him on this venture, they being no doubt impressed by Boyd's powerful vision for this new Country, Australia. Boyd was obviously a charismatic leader.</p> <p>After a well-earned, but much criticised then and now, leisurely cruise to Australia, the Wanderer arrived in Sydney in 1842 to much fanfare. Large crowds viewed the arrival of Wanderer, the first RYS vessel to visit Sydney, and several others following Boyd's lead, arrived soon after. He was even able to stage his own welcoming salute from the considerable armoury aboard Wanderer. He was welcomed at the highest level by Governor, Sir George Gibbs.</p> <p>Records show that Boyd 'hit the ground running' like none before him. In just 2 years, by 1844, it is recorded that he controlled over 2 ½ million acres of arable and pastoral land on the south coast and central south regions of NSW. He by then had 160,000 sheep and considerable cattle. He was far and away the largest land holder in NSW, was building Boydtown, soon to become the second largest commercial port on the NSW coast after Sydney, and establishing whaling in Sydney and Twofold Bay, and constructing his home on the shores of Sydney Harbour, at Neutral Bay. He was also running the bank he founded, with all the complexities that entails. He secured his land legally according to the practice in the colony. Some he was able to purchase freehold, further out and remote Crown lands allowed squatting which was legalised by Government leases with a minimum term of 20 years. Boyd's skill was the establishment and management of these wide tracks of land as productive enterprises. He is reported as being very skilled in the selection of his managers to run these dispersed spreads. Communication would have obviously been very challenging.</p> <p>Boyd mixed in the most powerful political and social circles, and was for some time a member of the NSW Legislature and leader of the Opposition. He was a man of extraordinary capacity which was needed to achieve to this high level in such a short period of time.</p> <p>Some of Boyd's biographers today criticise his management of the Royal Bank of Australia. It was no doubt a disappointment to Boyd that at time of leaving England that the Bank's capital was only 20% subscribed. This alone would have been a reason for his 18 month delay in leaving for Sydney. In the old way he carried these funds with him, and used them upon his arrival in the securing of land and productive assets. There would be no doubt that Boyd contributed much of his own funds to the Bank. It is not surprising in these heady times that personal and Bank ownership may have become blurred, and Boyd was building to create huge return for his investors. In a way, Boyd was the controller of the Bank, but there</p>	

Attachment 8.2.2 Attachment 2. Submissions Summary

No.	Name and Address	Submission	Position
		<p>is no evidence of dishonesty, just what looks like frenetic investment and securing of opportunity.</p> <p>Unfortunately, Boyd arrived in Sydney at a very difficult time for the colony. There was drought, wool prices had fallen in the last 1830's, and NSW, South Australia and New Zealand were effectively bankrupt and Boyd used the Royal Bank of Australia's funds to support the central Treasuries. He bailed out NZ for a considerable period of time and was never repaid. So much financial pressure was present at all levels of financial need in the colony at that time.</p> <p>Records show that despite these difficulties Boyd kept his eye on the main game of building the productive wealth of this developing nation, in the areas where it had considerable natural advantage, the land. Such was the force of this man he was quickly establishing a virtual empire, particularly on the south coast of NSW. He single handily inspired and led the establishment of the wool and meat export industries of the south coast of NSW. Records show that he was a major employer of the original Australians in this area, with early on, over 200 employed on his land. No doubt the work was hard, and locations remote and lonely. But Boyd was creating an improving lifestyle and wealth for all who wished to take part in these enterprises. It is reported that those aborigines who knew Boyd respected him, and some named their children after him. Boyd found them to be excellent 'shepherds'. There is no doubt that immigration to Australia was encouraged by his success, and certainly those from the Pacific Islands were among these new arrivals. Boyd had the ability to transport them here if they wished, and provide for them until established. He was needing of labour due to exponential growth of his enterprises. No doubt many of the Islanders succeeded in their new land, sadly, no doubt others struggled. Boyd again reports that he found many of the Islanders to be excellent 'shepherds'.</p> <p>Unfortunately Boyd had to look outside of Australia for labour due to the shortage here and the lack of firm policy to bring free settlers from the England. His ships made a number of trips to the Islands, on recruiting ventures. Whether the opportunities here were oversold or not, is unknown, but what is known and remains the case today, is that Pacific Islanders looked to Australia for employment. A particular problem to Boyd was that the then legal 'indenture' document under the 'Masters and Servants Act' which the Islanders were asked to sign, was made 'exempt' for Islanders (a most insulting description of them is used in the legislation), by the NSW Government at this very time. Such an agreement was not unusual at the time giving certainty and reciprocity of employment, in any Boyd enterprise, for 5 years. This gave security to both parties to the document. However, it was now cancelled and once the Islanders knew they were no longer 'bonded' Boyd lost control of all of them, and they were by their transfer to Australia, enabled to seek other opportunities. Surely this is the ultimate in racism, citizens were now unable to contract with 'savages', and in so doing enable them a better life. This good man, Boyd was prepared to contract and trust these so called 'savages', but forces in NSW obviously did not want them to prosper here. Boyd was not showing racism, indeed the reverse.</p> <p>About this time Oct 1847, upon the unfortunate death of an Islander whose body was found far to the North, on the rocks in Sydney Harbour, and Boyd was blamed, his response is significant being <i>'I should not consider myself in any degree responsible, even if the unfortunate man allude to had been one of the persons introduced by me, inasmuch as the wisdom of a late law passed after they were engaged, placed them beyond my control and protection'</i>.</p> <p>This statement clearly states that if the Islanders had not been prevented by the law change of staying in his employment, Boyd would have considered them to be under his protection. About this time, appalling accusations of blackbirding were made against Boyd. It is a shame that today these accusations are repeated and in fact, renewed in the Guardian and quite shockingly repeated now on the web page of North Sydney Council. This accusation should be removed immediately. In a special enquiry led by the highly regarded Governor, Sir Charles Fitzroy in 1847 (1846 to 1855), Boyd and his ship captains were cleared of any black birding or slavery activities. Boyd was a far more intelligent and effective man than that. Those who continue this accusation today seem to be ignorant of history. The NSW settlement was set up at the time when the anti- slavery movement was at its strongest in the English Parliament. Records show that, in the establishment of the colony, neither George III nor Governor Arthur Phillip had any heart for slavery. Under the Kings personal direction Phillip was directed to treat the aborigines with respect and care. Phillip needed no encouragement. In his preparation of the First Fleet, he wrote 'there shall be no slavery in a free land'. After decades of being on the edge of passing in the House, Wilberforce's anti-slavery legislation was passed in 1833 making slavery illegal in England and all the Dominions, long before Boyd arrived in Australia. Boyd was cleared of slavery charges at that time, by the valid courts applicable at that time.</p>	

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		<p>Unfortunately, it seems quite clear that the blackbirding accusations against Boyd, were more due to racism than any care for the Pacific Islanders. There were strong influences within the British and NSW Governments to ensure that the Colony remained British. Boyd's encouragement of Pacific Island immigration potentially established another race. Boyd was hugely criticised and ostracised by the upper social tiers of NSW society. Many such people had never held much concern for slavery, they were more concerned about racial cohesion. It is a tragic fact that such influences were also exhibited and practiced against the aborigines. This scar on the character of our Nation continued well into the 20th Century as the White Australia Policy.</p> <p>The demise of the Boyd Empire is a story that has been told, and there is not time or need to speak of this here. Except to say that certainly there would have been no one more disappointed than Boyd himself at this failure. He may have pushed things further than his funding allowed, and the business environment turned against him. There were huge pressures on him by the Colony. He was generous in the support of others. Unfortunately his infrastructure was not given time to reap its benefits. Let's hope that the tragedy of these events did not way upon this visionary man so much, to have to end it all, lonely and at his own hand in the Solomons.</p> <p>I ask North Sydney Council to withdraw this accusation as Boyd was exonerated of this charge legally in 1847. This is the law of our land, and we all should abide by it. This visionary, amazing entrepreneur should be treated with the respect he well and truly earned. Please do not continue this injustice by promulgating these superficial, agenda driven, attempts at rewriting history. We look forward to the 'Wanderer' plaque being relaunched very soon, on the corner of Ben Boyd Road and Kurraba Road.</p>	
10	Brian Gatfield 44 Aubin St NEUTRAL BAY	I support retention of the name. Before any "sentiment" is tested Council should at least estimate and advise costing of change. History is history , Boyd was a resident and business owner/operator in Neutral Bay. If council believes a third interpretive plaque is needed , for goodness sake get on with it . A sensible , pragmatic alternative to the proposed survey , it should offer a historically factual narrative of Boyd's many failings , assertions of forced labour and blackbirding , Colonialist attitudes etc but set in context of NSW development 180 years ago. No doubt there are other roads in the area associated with settlers , landholders and politicians with dubious records reflecting 19C attitudes very properly not tolerated today. Wait for the virtuous to find similar issues as with Ben Boyd Road.	NO
11	Brian Holmes	I am opposed to renaming Ben Boyd Road. If we keep changing historical names if they are going out of fashion there will be no history left. We still allow aboriginals to kill wild sea animals and this does not cause angst. This seems to be an anti-white man movement. Next you will want to change all the James Cook streets.	NO
12	Bruce Meers Ben Boyd Rd NEUTRAL BAY	I am a property owner in Ben Boyd Road. I am not in favour of changing the name of the road - it is a main thoroughfare road and changing the name of the road is not going to make it a better road with improved traffic flow. Leave the name as it stands.	NO
13	Bunny Anne Ridley Pine Hill FORBES	I do not want the name changed. Thank you. (owner of 24/230 Ben Boyd Rd)	NO
14	Calida Bowden 14/57 Milson Rd CREMORNE POINT	I agree with motions put forth for the renaming of Ben Boyd Road. I would like to put my hand up for the road to be renamed as Barangaroo Road, to honour the indigenous history of this area.	YES
15	Casey Finigan	I was overjoyed to see that North Sydney Council asked for feedback on the name of Ben Boyd Rd. I would love to see it changed and I think	YES

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	18 Grafton Street CAMMERAY	option 1 (Barangaroo Road) pays tribute to our local indigenous culture and history.	
16	Catherine Timbs 100 Ben Boyd Rd NEUTRAL BAY	I totally do not agree to renaming my street. Have you also looked at the costs involved to us residents re changing all our details to all places to whom we have regular contact with e.g. water rates-telephone and internet services - banks and many many more. Absolutely ridiculous.	NO
17	Craig Collie	While wanting to avoid a rant about 'woke' culture, I'm not sure how much this is being driven by descendants of blackbirded Melanesians who are affronted by Ben Boyd and how much by people who think they might be or should be. Probably our street names are littered with people who underpaid their workers, but it would be an endless and disrupting process to go through them one by one. A change of street name will cause confusion and inconvenience, which I would accept as a price worth paying for a grossly inappropriate name. I don't regard Ben Boyd as one, even if blackbirding is a practice I would oppose. It seems he got his just deserts in the end anyway. If we had an Adolph Hitler Rd or even a Pol Pot St in Neutral Bay, I support their replacement, although I'd be interested to know who thought it was a good idea in the first place. Perhaps if the person who came up with the name Ben Boyd Rd did a bit more background research, they might have considered an alternative, but it seems they didn't. It's worth bearing in mind our much-loved Fuzzy Wuzzy Angels of the Kokoda campaign in WW2 were mostly indentured labourers. There's too much imposed orthodoxy in this proposal for my liking. If there has to be a name change, my preference would be Barangaroo St. At least, like Ben Boyd, she lived around here.	NO
18	Damais Bairstow 37 Grasmere Rd CREMORNE	You're joking! If we changed names because they were the names of despicable characters there would be few names left, apart perhaps from Aboriginal names which none of us can spell. Please don't cause confusion.	NO
19	Danny Opacic 113 Ben Boyd Rd NEUTRAL BAY	Absolutely disagree with the proposal. The man was of his times and contributed in his own way to what is now this great country. Do not erase history but provide appropriate medium for the new generations to learn from it. How far do we erase our past; up to stone age!. They could not possibly have done anything wrong. Current trend to wipe out all that is now unsavoury from our past is lunacy perpetrated by people who should really know better. No one on Earth has clean hands, be it young or old. Shall we than get rid of the human race and leave Nature to produce something more pure in the next few billion years of evolution? So leave it be; to remind us that we always could strive to do better than our ancestors.	NO
20	David Hall Manns Ave NEUTRAL BAY	I do not believe that the name of Ben Boyd Road should be changed. Society cannot possibly rename every road or tear down every statue which carries the name of a person from history that has done many great things as well as other things that may have not been so great. We cannot change history and neither should we try. But what we can do is learn from history and where there has been bad behaviour, slavery and possibly even murder we, as a society, should learn never to repeat those mistakes. Where street names commemorate a famous name from history the intention is not to glorify the bad things that they did (which by the way, were socially acceptable back in their day) but to glorify the good things they did. And where now our society may judge them for the bad things they did, it doesn't mean their names should be erased from history but that our current generation, and those following, should be aware of what people and communities did in those earlier times and appreciate that we have now become a more enlightened community.	NO
21	Deanne Russell 21 Ben Boyd Rd	I am the owner of a small shop at 21 Ben Boyd Rd, Neutral Bay. It is currently leased out but at the end of the year I am proposing to establish my own art gallery in that shop with the aim of including indigenous artists that I know in the Northern Territory. I am also moving into an apartment	YES

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	NORTH SYDNEY	<p>in Premier Street, Neutral Bay by the end of the year. By way of background I am also a part owner in a mine in the Northern Territory with a number of indigenous friends who are also shareholders and work with me on this and other projects. I have been travelling to the NT for work since the 1970's. I have been actively involved in indigenous affairs and issues since then. While understanding the council's issue with the Ben Boyd Rd name, just changing names for the sake of a few should have a more wider consideration. Comments on proposed name;</p> <p>1. Barangaroo; while appreciating that she was a local woman married to an indigenous man from the Manly area, it is more associated with the opposite side of the harbour and probably confusing for all but a few who know her history. In addition she has enough recognition for her contribution through naming of the harbour foreshore area - therefore I do not agree that the road should be renamed Barangaroo.</p> <p>2. Neutral Bay Rd is a straight reference point to another time in colonial History. It was named for the bay that allowed neutral countries to moor in the bay and collected fresh water, which were then later charged a fee. This name does not achieve what appears to be the argument for name change in the first place. - I would prefer to use this name out of the three alternatives.</p> <p>3. Reconciliation Rd. Despite being at the forefront for indigenous issues in our area in the NT, reconciliation road is a rich white person's perspective of the issue at hand and would, in my view, be seen by indigenous people in the NT as pandering to them in a disingenuous manner...condescending would be another view. However, I understand what the council is attempting to achieve - therefore I do not agree with this name.</p> <p>Alternatives:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Using the North Sydney Council's own historian's information booklet, Dr Ian Hoskins, I suggest the council rename the road, Pearl Gibbs, the aboriginal activist who was at the forefront of change mentioned on page 28 of this information booklet. - Watkin Tench road would be another name. Although a colonialist on the first fleet he reported all of the local accounts at the time which provides a valuable insight into the times. - Gooreedeeana Road (page 16&17) Dr Hoskins' North Sydney Council information booklet on Aboriginal history. Although just mentioned as a individuals by Watkin Tench, she represents the ordinary indigenous person who's life was changed forever and has been completely forgotten by everyone in Australia, bar a few, and her life was taken for granted and this would go a long way to say reconciliation in another way. 	
22	Donald Gunn 7-15 Grasmere Rd CREMORNE	<p>I do not wish Ben Boyd Road renamed. The premise on which the proposal is based is false. Benjamin Boyd was not a blackbirder, according to the definition given in the Macquarie dictionary, nor in the details given in The Australian Dictionary of Biographies. The dictionary requires slavery to be involved. Boyd brought approximately 200 Pacific Islanders to Australia to work as shepherds and labourers on his extensive sheep stations. They proved to be unsuitable and were returned home later in the same the year they left. Allegations of mistreatment were investigated by the Attorney General. They could not be substantiated, and the Colonial Office was advised accordingly. Perhaps Council could carry out better due diligence before accepting the claims of an activist. At least Council could refrain from using emotional language, such as being a blackbirder, in its own correspondence on the matter. I attempted to state my view in the on-line survey, but could not recover my partial draft nor submit a replacement.</p>	NO
23	Doug St George	No change to existing name.	NO
24	Eleonor Chevor	<p>Why do Council/people want to remove Ben Boyd's name - do we think by doing this we can rewrite history? This is part of a growing trend to be PC - just learn from our past and make sure we don't repeat the same mistakes now. Also think of the huge expense and inconvenience to Govt departments, businesses, residents etc in changing our street name. Stop this madness! Re my comments on renaming our street - Ben Boyd Rd, Cremorne- leave it as it is.</p>	NO
25	Elizabeth Hill	I do not agree to change the name of Ben Boyd Rd. You cannot re write history by changing the name of the street. We all realise many practices	NO

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No.	Name and Address	Submission	Position
	192 Ben Boyd Rd NEUTRAL ABAY	of the 1800's would not be acceptable today, but that is how it was then, on many fronts. There were plenty of others like Ben Boyd and plenty of convicted felons who have streets named after them. Do we go through each one? No!!! Where do we stop? Please keep the name as is.	
26	Fiona Robertson	I am still horrified at the possibility of the renaming of Ben Boyd Road. I am totally against such a move. We cannot change history and even though there are parts we don't like, if we wipe it out then nothing is learnt as we go forward. I have lived/owned property on Ben Boyd, Phillips and Highview for much of the past 26 years. This road is a part of Neutral Bay's history... the good and the bad. Please don't change the name.	NO
27	Fraser Old Lvl 10, The Bayer Building 275 Alfred St NORTH SYDNEY	I'm very much in favour of retaining the name Ben Boyd Road. Ben Boyd was an industrious pioneer and a founding father of Australia. By comparison the modern wannabes are complete pygmies. Trying to re-write history by renaming the road is completely fatuous.	NO
28	Geoff Bradd	I support option 1.	YES
29	Gloria Healy 81/260 Military Rd NEUTRAL BAY	"Renaming Ben Boyd Road". This in the North Sydney News June 2021, and my reaction? – where will this sanitising of history stop. In the UK a statue of a prominent person in an industrial city was dragged down because he was involved in the slave trade a couple of hundred years ago which incidentally helped make England a great industrial power and probably provided a background to those destroying the man's statue. Sanitising history does not make the facts go away – if Ben Boyd was involved in unacceptable labour practices – unacceptable now but not then - put that in his history and even on the plaque bearing his name and show his history as well. Where will it stop – how about the story of the Crucifixion? After all the historical facts do not show the Romans in a good light and there has been conjecture... but it is history. Will we rewrite the story of the Holocaust because it shows the Germans in a bad light – no! The Holocaust is history. History is not made up of sanitised Hollywood soapies – it should be made up as far as possible by facts...think about sanitising the history of your own ancestors – would you want that? Or would you want to know the real people?	NO
30	Grace Long 11/48 Shellcove Rd KURRABA POINT	I wish to lodge my objection to changing the name of Ben Boyd Road by North Sydney Council and propose that the name of this road be retained as Ben Boyd Road. A change of name and destruction of an historical icon is seen as detrimental to Council, residents, and businesses in the area and will involve inconvenience and cost related to street signage, mapping, correspondence, changes to paperwork for businesses and residents, extensive time and cost of notifications to all visitors and people associated with property, as well as general confusion and lack of understanding of the area. However diverse the background of Benjamin Boyd, his presence and story remains part of Australia history and can't be changed or expunged. It is synonymous with the past and represents the basis of where we are today and the development of modern Australia and the standards and laws by which we all now abide. This history is the precursor of local councils, legal and government representatives, development of ongoing building and infrastructure and the changing cultural evolution throughout the land and includes all who live here and call Australia home, whether they be of aboriginal or European descent, or more recent Australians who are immigrants from third world countries. The lack of understanding of those seeking to remove information about the past and destroy the records and knowledge of history in all its forms, reflects poorly on the constructive thinking and education of those wanting to disenfranchise all cultures and create divisiveness in the homogeneity of a changing world, and will impact on the learning and knowledge of future generations in their quest for improvement and growth.	NO
31	Grahame Kelly 9/192 The Benton	Please do not change name.	NO

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No.	Name and Address	Submission	Position
	Ben Boyd Rd NEUTRAL BAY		
32	Helen & Peter Webber 6 Sprunson St NEUTRAL BAY	<p>Thank you for your letter seeking feedback on this issue. As residents of Neutral Bay for over 50 years, living in Spruson Street, we are only 100 metres or so from Ben Boyd Road and use it every day. We are very aware of the checkered career of Ben Boyd, but are both strongly against changing the name of the Road. The name is an important part of the social history of our locality and the wider community. However we also consider it important that Boyd's character and behaviour should be fully and properly documented by way of public signage in appropriate locations. For many years there have been two plaques on a wall at the bottom of Ben Boyd Road which recognize only part of his life, one by Council and one by the Historical Society. Some months ago at the time of the 'Black Lives Matter' protests they were covered over by Council to avoid vandalism. At the time we urged Council to take action by way of either amending wording on the existing plaque(s), or adding a new one to include the other side of his legacy. We recommend that:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The two existing plaques should be preserved, but an additional one added to ensure that a balanced story of Boyd's life is presented. 2. A new plaque or notice board of some sort should be constructed at a suitable location at the top end of Ben Boyd Road. This should provide a balanced version of his career. 	NO
33	Hugh Jolly 105 Ben Boyd Rd NEUTRAL BAY	<p>I write in opposition - the very strong possible opposition - to any proposal to rename the road in which I live. My reasons, in concise form, are set out below. When I first read Council's letter dated 16 June, I recalled a piece of graffiti in a U.S. maximum-security jail, reported in an anthology I once owned: it read. 'Even the worst of us can serve as horrible examples'. When I first moved to live in the road over 30 years ago, I made a point of researching the Ben Boyd history. It became evident that Boyd was a charlatan who ingratiated himself into high places in the UK, coming to Australia to seek his fortune using other people's money. He failed, squandered the finance, and probably fled before being held to account. It is reasonable to consider his failings moral and otherwise as comparable in the 1840s to the more recent Christopher Skase. These days, his memory is publicly pilloried over his importation of Pacific Islanders - so-called 'blackbirding', a form of slavery in effect - to work on his land holdings.</p> <p>Reading the stated 'facts' in Council's documentation, one might infer a direct association between Boyd and the importation of tens of thousands of islanders to work the sugar plantations in Queensland. I may be incorrect, but I know of no proven historical association in this regard. It seems too long a bow to attribute culpability to Boyd for this wrongdoing. It is important when assessing his character, today, to avoid exaggeration, and (dare I say) in sticking to the facts, avoid political correctness. I read Marian Diamond's opinion piece in the SMH, Tuesday, March 30 this year: the article strikes a reasonable balance. But a fair summary is 'we need to remember Ben Boyd'.</p> <p>It cannot be denied that Boyd played a part in the change and development of 19th century NSW, perhaps because community leaders learned not to trust such people. He is associated with Neutral Bay because it was one of the bases for his business. It is utterly inappropriate to attempt to expunge his name from the records. He was a local identity- and he should be remembered as such, and his failings and failures should be accurately explained, whether in public notices or in schools, say, so that current generations can apply lessons learned by their forebears. George Santayana's of quoted 'Those who do not remember the past are condemned to repeat it' seems apposite</p> <p>Council's survey offers three alternate approaches for renaming. The first, an aboriginal name, has been very successfully used on the other side of the harbour. The second, the very bland 'Neutral Bay Road', does not do justice to the structure of the road itself, or the people who inhabit it. The third, Reconciliation Road, is stretching a PC point which begins in this instance in Queensland, then travels to Neutral Bay, losing strength and purpose on the way. 'Reconciliation' is vital but risks huge resistance if pursued like this. As Marian Diamond indicates, the National Park should be renamed. The name change for the sporting house at the local school is fair, as the subtleties of the present situation will not be readily understood by the majority of the school students.</p> <p>I enjoy the identity that comes with living in Ben Boyd Road. It is a section of a suburb which is full of character. That character is reinforced by the</p>	NO

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No.	Name and Address	Submission	Position
		<p>plaques at the bottom of the hill. I have heard it said a reasonable approach to part of the current dilemma would be to add a third board, explaining the re-appraisal of the Boyd character (since the original naming). I would support such a proposal. Overall, 'if it ai n' t broke, don't fix it'.</p> <p>Imagine the consequences of a name change. None of my ageing friends will know, anymore, where I live. In future lockdowns, the supermarkets will be unable to deliver my groceries. Australia Post already can't always deliver my mail now, even when correctly ad dressed. And I won't get any Christmas cards; they will be internationally re distributed, marked 'address unknown'. For heaven's sake, let common sense prevail, and the status quo remain. No one is 'honouring' this man, quite the reverse. Our elected local government representatives have more important things to do. Just leave Ben Boyd Road alone. Balanced education is a superior solution to attempted obliteration.</p>	
34	Ian Grant 18/30 Young St CREMORNE	<p>1) I fully support the road name change; 2) The 3 Options for the name change are vastly limited; and 3) Were the a forth name change Option available, I would strongly recommend "Ted Mack Road" as the new name given the significant and positive impact that Ted had on the local area and also his enthusiastic and altruistic public service to the Local Government area (and beyond that in both State and Federal Parliament as a non-politically aligned individual). Having stated my opinion, I leave the Street name change decision up to the dedicated women and men who decide such matters and I wish them all the best with their final choice.</p>	YES
35	Ian McPhee	In my view, the name Ben Boyd Road should NOT be changed. it is pathetic, that North Sydney Council is prepared to bow to the noisy activists who wish to whitewash and denigrate out nation’s history by changing street names, removing monuments and the like.	NO
36	Ivan Judd Grasmere Rd CREMORNE	I am saddened to receive such a missive constructed by the ill-educated and illiterate. What sort of intellectual pygmy could possibly think that history can be altered by the application of white out. The concept of burying one’s head in the sand emu style could in any way salve the injured indignation of some long dead Pacific Islander is risible. Leave the name alone.	NO
37	James Mathers	I'm strongly opposed to the renaming of Ben Boyd Road. Assuming your historical facts are correct in relation to Ben Boyd “blackbirding” surely we can recognise that fact and connect those atrocities with the name. The name will be associated with those atrocities, atrocities which should never be repeated. I don't believe we are honouring Ben Boyd today by naming a road after him. Perhaps the Germans should consider renaming Auschwitz for the same reasons. I wouldn't what that to happen either. Our history is littered with good and bad events. We can't run away from our history.	NO
38	Jan Newland Anderson St NEUTRAL BAY	Please do not rename Ben Boyd Road.	NO
39	Jane Hagan	I support the retention of the name Ben Boyd Road and vehemently oppose renaming this street.	NO
40	Jeff Hole Ryries Pde CREMORNE	I support the retention of the name “Ben Boyd Road” because it is important that we understand our history whether it be good or bad. To make sure that the community remains aware of the history I would like to see exhibited at various spots along the road a description and denunciation of the practice of blackbirding to remind the community of its “not-so-pleasant’ past. We can’t afford to whitewash our history. Should the community as a whole vote for a name change, I would support the Barangaroo option.	NO

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41	Joanne Dan CREMORNE	I am completely opposed to the renaming of the well-known Ben Boyd Road. It is sanitising history and political correctness gone mad. There are many suburbs and street names which would not stand close scrutiny. Where will it all end? This is unnecessary change for current fashion's sake. Council should be more focused on amending the dangerous and uneven footpaths in the Municipality instead of attempting to amend history.	NO
42	Jon Attwater NEUTRAL BAY	Why do we have to run away from our past? Ben Boyd is part of our history, like Ned Kelly who we remember as some sort of folk hero. The highwayman Frederick Ward "Captain Thunderbolt" has a highway in NSW named after him. Do we change the name of every place named after someone who has done things we now deem unacceptable? Definitely not.	NO
43	Jon Cook	I propose a fourth name for the road - Bad Boyd Rd If that is not acceptable, I would select Barangaroo Road.	YES
44	Julie Ritchie & Robert Gregg	We strongly object to any name change to Ben Boyd Road. As ratepayers and voters (for many years), in coming elections we rely on our Council to spend our money on carrying out their well-highlighted duties, not wasting time and expense renaming century old roads.	NO
45	Kathryn Glendenning PO Box 3966 MOSMAN	I believe the name should be changed from Ben Boyd Road to Taldumande Road, Neutral Bay. The name Taldumande means 'refuge' and given the Taldumande Youth Centre in Ben Boyd Road was originally used to house homeless aboriginal woman I feel it would be a respectful gesture.	YES
46	Keryn Mar	I am totally opposed to this ridiculous suggestion of renaming Ben Boyd Road. It will achieve absolutely nothing and only encourage the minority of outspoken woke activists to demand anything and everything that offends them to be renamed. You can't erase or change history for the benefit of a few. It is an absurd notion. This nonsense has to stop. If you agree to this North Sydney Council will join the long list of woke councils.	NO
47	Leanne Hodgson 8a Ben Boyd Rd NEUTRAL BAY	In essence, his message was "to concede nothing to those who would erase the past because it does not suit their image of the present." As Henry Ergas notes, it is perhaps the finest rebuttal of the current attacks on historical truth delivered by a Western leader. He also pointed out that the speech was an object lesson on the importance of truth in history. "You are not responsible for France's past," Macron told the students, "nor are you its guardians. It comes to you as an inheritance, without a testament attached. You may choose to love it; and so too you may choose to criticise it. But first of all you must learn it": Ensure we know our local history. Recognise some good out of evil, tenacity out of blind ambition, and a food provider for a nation on the precipice of development in a colony more like the wild west than today's strata towered, glass hung, concrete paved paradise we call home. Please, leave the name as it is.	NO
48	Linden Stokes 9/2 Lindsay St NEUTRAL BAY	This man is a legend on the mouths of those who seek ethos in our community. Why was he left off the list?! After reading all about him in Wikipedia, it would be fitting to rename Ben Boyd Road Ted Mack Road. https://en.m.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ted_Mack_(politician) Please add this man's name to the vote.	YES
49	Lisa Ronan 603b/7-13 Centennial Ave LANE COVE	I support renaming it. I think it should be Neutral Bay Road	YES
50	M Thompson	It is ridiculous to think of renaming Ben Boyd Road. Ben Boyd only had a short connection with NSW and one shipment of South Sea Islanders to	NO

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		NSW. Many of those people refused to workman jumped on ships and returned to the islands and many escaped elsewhere in NSW. His association with slavery was minimal, acceptable at the time and part of history. I would be very disappointed to see the name changed.	
51	Margaret Hanks 1/19 Waters Rd NEUTRAL BAY	Australian history, since the arrival of the first Europeans, is littered with misdeeds, and indeed a number of persons of doubtful character. Ben Boyd is an integral part of history especially of the North Sydney district. He may not have been a good man but he is part of the local history and changing the name of the road will alter nothing. We can't ignore the past nor can we change it. All that will be changed if the street name is changed, will be a headache for its residents and countless others. It would take a great deal of time and money for the residents, utilities, map makers, electoral rolls, taxi companies etc to alter this street name. It is a very long road with a large number of multi-storey buildings along with single households. I can't imagine the cost and inconvenience this change would cause to hundreds of people and companies if this is allowed to go ahead. Install another plaque if necessary but leave the street name alone.	NO
52	Marianne Rhydderch	Ben Boyd Road should retain its name. History should never be rewritten.	NO
53	Marion Breden	I object strongly to the renaming of Ben Boyd Road. This is our history you are ignoring, part of who we are, our past - you cannot change that.	NO
54	Mark Harbridge Riverview Ave CRONULLA	I suggest the Council and Councillors undertake an overview of their procurement activities. I dare say both Council and Councillors are likely to be exploiting cheap labour through their procurement choices from countries far less fortunate than Australia. Your focus as a council should be on amenity, road repairs, rubbish collection and other activities that a reasonable person would expect their rates to go towards. Stay in your lane!	NOT STATED
55	Mark Nagle Ben Boyd Rd NEUTRAL BAY	I live on Ben Boyd Road and do not want a name change. Many streets around the world are named after historical characters. It's part of our history and lessons can be taught. Please do not allow these political extremists to inflict their cancel culture on the good folk of Neutral Bay. How dare they.	NO
56	Mary Anne Jones	I wish to register my desire to change the name of Ben Boyd Road. It is inappropriate to honour somebody involved in this insidious trade.	YES
57	Mel Serrano	Thank you for creating the opportunity to have a say on this issue. I would like to vote for the name change of Ben Boyd Road, I vote for Option 3: Reconciliation Rd. While I can understand that there are people who are not affected by the history of Ben Boyd and therefore are happy for the name to remain the same, I would still much prefer that it does change because that history is part of the pain that has deeply hurt one of the oldest cultures in the world. Part of being able to let go of that pain is to release the energy that holds it here. I believe that by acknowledging that history and transforming the energy of this land with positive meaning (and intention) is one way to achieve this. Secondly, not only does the word 'reconciliation' carry that acknowledgement, but I also believe that it could represent something much bigger for the rest of Sydney. Looking forward to the outcome of this.	YES
58	Merrideth Stone 76 Ben Boyd Rd NEUTRAL BAY	I object to any change of name. We cannot erase events which happened in the past, but learn from them. I believe the name should remain the same. Do not believe that history, regardless of whether it is good or bad, should be expunged (destroy all traces, erased, removed). Have a problem with the use of the word expunged, the bare truth should prevail. That it was cruel. That slaves were treated badly should not be expunged (destroy all traces, erased, removed). Don't see the plaque and other signs of Ben Boyd other than as reporting history. Certainly not a commemoration, and nor a celebration of Ben Boyd. Surprised it is deemed hurtful by many of the descendants of those transported.	NO

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No.	Name and Address	Submission	Position
59	Michael Webster 88 Ben Boyd Rd NEUTRAL BAY	<p>I wish to object to any proposal that Ben Boyd Road be renamed. The idea should be sublated. My objections to the proposal relate to a number of facets of the Council proposal.</p> <p>Firstly there is an implied reasoning that the morality exhibited by Boyd was reprehensible when viewed from a 2021 perspective. This is an ongoing debate for those who would interpret history whilst patently some activities offend our current sensibilities, they are part of the cultural antecedents and history of the majority of modern Australia. The early Victorian era was not noted for its sensitive treatment of convicts and native peoples alike. In the main, arguments on morality can only be understood if they are judged by the morality of the era. In Boyd's brief sojourn in Australia, transportation was still taking place, the Anglo-Sikh was fought, the Indian Mutiny was about the erupt and an extensive slave trading maritime empire existed in the Sulu Archipelago to the north of Australia.</p> <p>Boyd was an entrepreneur who came with a development plan and committed funds and ships to his enterprises. He pioneered the use of steamships in the Australian coastal trade and established refuelling harbours and perhaps for that alone his efforts should be commemorated. He attempted major pastoral activities and built a whaling station and tried to build a township. Boyd's recruiting in the New Hebrides was a consequence of the lack of labour in Australia at the time and he did not seek indentures in NSW. Indentured labour was a system with a long history in North America and England and by extension Australia; it was not invented by Boyd nor did it end with his death.</p> <p>Boyd was naïve in recruiting from the tropics for men to work as farm workers in temperate NSW. He was also cavalier in his payment and dealings with the 200 or so persons imported and it was alleged he brought some under duress. He ran afoul of public opinion mainly because he was seen to be trying to undercut labour rates in NSW by importing foreign workers. His dealings were investigated at the time by the Attorney-General of NSW and a report clearing him of misbehaviour was sent to the Colonial Office London in 1847. (source: G. P. Walsh, Australian Dictionary of Biography, Volume 1, (MUP), 1966). After his death in Guadalcanal in 1851 his yacht the Wanderer was stranded and a Napoleonic era cannon retrieved from the wreck sits in Auckland's War Museum with a commemoration to Boyd.</p> <p>In sum Boyd was an energetic entrepreneur whose activities provide a rich trove of pre-federation development activities and who deserves, for all his shortcomings, to be commemorated on the shores of a renowned harbour that founded a nation. Naming a road after him reflects both his chosen locality and the history that lies behind his enterprise. It is not a garnish to his memory. Failed entrepreneurs have not vanished, witness Skase, Bond, and a prominent politician who have cheated their workers in our own era.</p> <p>Cancelling his career seems contra-indicated, If there is merit in highlighting some taint of history surely is preferable to keep the name alive rather than obliterate it in the fashion of George Orwell's '1984' Ministry of Truth (MinTrue). A cogent reminder is better than a redaction.</p> <p>As a long term resident of Ben Boyd Road I have estimated the records that will need modification. There are approximately 20 formal documents including land titles, trusts, wills, loans, vehicle registrations etcetera. There is a cost for doing this. In addition there some 45 online registrations and subscriptions and a lifetime of mail address book contacts that would have to be contacted.</p> <p>I am not in favour of changing the name and certainly would not support the use of a nondescript name that had no relevance to the harbour or our great city. I am perplexed as to why this proposal has arisen at a time when our health is threatened by COVID-19 and many are heading for penury. Surely council has more relevant issues to address.</p> <p>Lastly this is third proposal to alter the lifestyle of Ben Boyd Road in recent times. The others are poorly maintained flower beds and redundant speed humps. Each of them has been based on some obscure complaint or unsolicited suggestion. I feel that the citizens of this area have the right to know who are the virtue signallers that are making these suggestions? If is solely based on council deliberations then it is just as well democratic elections are about to be held.</p>	NO
60	Michelle Baric	I'd like to strongly object to the possibility of changing the name of Ben Boyd Rd. I don't believe you should erase history, you should learn from it. Leave the name as it is!	NO
61	Milly Stendrup	This is ridiculous. History cannot and should not be erased. How do we learn from the mistakes of the past if we try to delete past	NO

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		events/wounds? Please do not proceed with this.	
62	Name and address withheld	Submission content withheld in accordance with Council's <i>Access to Information Policy</i> .	NO
63	Nena Gerloff	I prefer to keep Ben Boyd Road's name, as we are all used to it over a long time perhaps a memorial giving the history could be erected.	NO
64	Neutral Precinct Committee	Neutral Precinct recommends the name Ben Boyd Road is retained. Discussion Points: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Noted the historical context of Ben Boyd in the development of Neutral Bay. - Acknowledgement that it is a good thing that the issue is being discussed and people are learning about an historical figure. - It is a pity to rewrite history, whether it is good or bad in the context of modern society. - It is an imposition on all the residents (estimated at several hundred house- holds) to have the Road renamed. - Generally the meeting acknowledged the practices of Ben Boyd were not acceptable but didn't agree to changing the name of the Road. 	NO
65	Nick Ross	Every wovser that suggested this needs to resign from the Council when it doesn't pass. Leave it as it is.	NO
66	Pamela Urquhat	I totally oppose the change of name for Ben Boyd Road. You can't erase history and the reasons and expense of the change is totally ridiculous. It will always be Ben Boyd Road for those of us who have lived in this area for many years and travelled along this road. I think the Council should stick to what it is meant to do and not get involved in woke rubbish of changing long standing road names.	NO
67	Patrick Jones 10 Spurson NEUTRAL BAY	I disagree with the renaming of Ben Boyd Rd for reasons I believe this movement to be a result from the current cancel culture or similar attitudes for cancelling unpleasant facts from history. What Ben Boyd did during his lifetime I think everyone can agree was reprehensible, however he did play a role in the history and the development of our nation so the naming of the street at the time is understandable. Renaming a street and trying to sweep the name and memory of Ben Boyd "under the rug" is not an intelligent course of action. There are certain realities in history that upset most people, there is nothing that can be done to change these facts and trying to whitewash history is a dangerous endeavour. History is a wealth of knowledge it is not to be liked or disliked only there for us to learn from so that we do not make the same mistakes. The name of Ben Boyd Rd should not be changed to pacify a few soft people who can't stand to face the facts of the past, it should remain as is. not as a celebration to a man who was involved some unpleasant vocations but to create an awareness of the atrocities that he conducted. Removing and cherry-picking parts of history like already stated is a dangerous endeavour. It starts with small moments like these that lead to and create larger repercussions and results that are not always positive. I believe I can sum up my opinions with a quote from someone who lived through a part of history and who's words carry more weight than anyone involved in this little debate: "history, despite its wrenching pain, cannot be unlive, but if faced with courage, need not to be lived again" (Maya Angelou).	NO
68	Paul Ginman 13/24 Rangers Rd CREMORNE	The name of Ben Boyd Road should not be changed it is part of history. Just because a few want the name changed due to what he did does not alter what he did and does not warrant a change of name. Taken to the extreme this would result in hundreds probably thousands of name changes being required throughout the Council area. History is history whether good or bad, you can't change history just by changing the name of a street, but you can alert people to rights and wrongs through the use of their names.	NO
69	Peter Ord 24 Young St	Ben Boyd Road has been a figure of speech for all Lower North Shore residents for over 150 years, nobody is alive to testify that Mr Boyd actually initiated blackbirding and if he did then it ceased many years ago. We as business owners of 24 Young Street, Neutral Bay and strongly object to	NO

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	NEUTRAL BAY	any name changing and cannot understand why any individual would not have better things to do with their time i.e. support the homeless people on the North Shore (yes the are many).	
70	Phillipa Gyles Carlow St NORTH SYDNEY	I think Neutral Bay Rd makes sense. It's descriptive and well, neutral. Thank you for putting it up for voting.	YES
71	Richard Corbett PO Box 154 NEUTRAL BAY	<p>I wish to advise that I do not support the renaming of Ben Boyd Rd, Neutral Bay. There is much misrepresentation of the life and activities of Ben Boyd, in the quite copious literature. One such book on this topic, which seems to have become popular reading is Marion Diamond's biography of Boyd, which from the very first chapter tends to be more of a character assassination than a truthful biography. The book is full of cynical observations and subjective interpretations of Boyd, or anyone in any way connected with Boyd working to develop the economy of the still struggling colony in the early 1840's. Particular cynicism is reserved for those in Britain and NSW, wishing to bring more free settlers from the old country to NSW to enable this growth. There were thousands in Britain who would have jumped at the chance as long as their voyage was funded. Apparently the Parliament in London resisted this initiative. Labour was a desperate problem for Boyd in the mid 1840's. This is but one context that is relevant to the life of Ben Boyd in this period.</p> <p>The life of Ben Boyd has attracted much interest, as it had many turns and had very considerable impact on the NSW colony barely 50 years after its beginnings. May I attempt a short précis of relevant parts of Boyd's life and times?</p> <p>Boyd grew up in a good family, but did not have a financially easy start in life. After many generations of ever growing land ownership, commercial success and political and social influence, the Boyd family at this generation had to face the ignominy of financial ruin due to the bankruptcy of their father. Boyd and his siblings had to rebuild the family's future, and he was definitely the leader, and set about this task obviously with courage and skill. He was physically and intellectually a powerful man. He is reported as being of a relaxed demeanour, which his detractors report as being too 'laid back'. This makes him a bit of an Aussie to me. His achievements certainly refute this assessment. At the age of just 24 he and his brother Mark were running their own growing and successful stock broking firm. He is reported as being extremely financially skilled and over the next 20 years, his influence grew to holding board positions and chairmanships of several major London financial enterprises. He obviously was progressing fast, and he enjoyed the good things of life, he was brought up to this. By now he was an influential member of London's financial fraternity. He was a member of the Royal Yacht Squadron, and had his own magnificent 140 tonne yacht, which he was able to parade at Cowes, called the Wanderer. His detractors, and some of his biographers, paint him as a playboy. The facts do not seem to accord with this. Hopefully he was enjoying life, but achievements such as his are not made without ability and focus.</p> <p>He was a single man and stayed so all his life. Reports of love not returned, may have been a contributing reason for his South Seas venture. By his forties, Boyd no doubt had his own considerable financial wealth. His was a character to continue to achieve and he was among several other very successful men of that period to seek commercial success in faraway places of the realm. He owned, or part owned, several vessels, as other also did, sufficient to take him comfortably to these places. Boyd obviously spent some time preparing for this venture, and there were some delays for which he was criticised at the time and also now by biographers, and for which there were no doubt good reasons. In 1841 Ben Boyd sailed for Sydney, in his own vessel Wanderer RYS, with a considerable entourage, including other ships he owned. His trip was supported at the highest level of Government in England working directly with the Colonial Secretary, Lord John Russell. His goal was to develop the resources of Australia and the South Pacific. Before leaving England he had established the Royal Bank of Australia with nominal capital of 1 million pounds, this being his ongoing investment platform. He encouraged other competent business people from London to physically join him on this venture, they being no doubt impressed by Boyd's powerful vision for this new Country, Australia. Boyd was obviously a charismatic leader.</p> <p>After a well-earned, but much criticised then and now, leisurely cruise to Australia, the Wanderer arrived in Sydney in 1842 to much fanfare. Large crowds viewed the arrival of Wanderer, the first RYS vessel to visit Sydney, and several others following Boyd's lead, arrived soon after. He was</p>	NO

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		<p>even able to stage his own welcoming salute from the considerable armoury aboard Wanderer. He was welcomed at the highest level by Governor, Sir George Gibbs.</p> <p>Records show that Boyd ‘hit the ground running’ like none before him. In just 2 years, by 1844, it is recorded that he controlled over 2 ½ million acres of arable and pastoral land on the south coast and central south regions of NSW. He by then had 160,000 sheep and considerable cattle. He was far and away the largest land holder in NSW, was building Boydtown, soon to become the second largest commercial port on the NSW coast after Sydney, and establishing whaling in Sydney and Twofold Bay, and constructing his home on the shores of Sydney Harbour, at Neutral Bay. He was also running the bank he founded, with all the complexities that entails. He secured his land legally according to the practice in the colony. Some he was able to purchase freehold, further out and remote Crown lands allowed squatting which was legalised by Government leases with a minimum term of 20 years. Boyd’s skill was the establishment and management of these wide tracks of land as productive enterprises. He is reported as being very skilled in the selection of his managers to run these dispersed spreads. Communication would have obviously been very challenging.</p> <p>Boyd mixed in the most powerful political and social circles, and was for some time a member of the NSW Legislature and leader of the Opposition. He was a man of extraordinary capacity which was needed to achieve to this high level in such a short period of time.</p> <p>Some of Boyd’s biographers today criticise his management of the Royal Bank of Australia. It was no doubt a disappointment to Boyd that at time of leaving England that the Bank’s capital was only 20% subscribed. This alone would have been a reason for his 18 month delay in leaving for Sydney. In the old way he carried these funds with him, and used them upon his arrival in the securing of land and productive assets. There would be no doubt that Boyd contributed much of his own funds to the Bank. It is not surprising in these heady times that personal and Bank ownership may have become blurred, and Boyd was building to create huge return for his investors. In a way, Boyd was the controller of the Bank, but there is no evidence of dishonesty, just what looks like frenetic investment and securing of opportunity.</p> <p>Unfortunately, Boyd arrived in Sydney at a very difficult time for the colony. There was drought, wool prices had fallen in the last 1830’s, and NSW, South Australia and New Zealand were effectively bankrupt and Boyd used the Royal Bank of Australia’s funds to support the central Treasuries. He bailed out NZ for a considerable period of time and was never repaid. So much financial pressure was present at all levels of financial need in the colony at that time.</p> <p>Records show that despite these difficulties Boyd kept his eye on the main game of building the productive wealth of this developing nation, in the areas where it had considerable natural advantage, the land. Such was the force of this man he was quickly establishing a virtual empire, particularly on the south coast of NSW. He single handily inspired and led the establishment of the wool and meat export industries of the south coast of NSW. Records show that he was a major employer of the original Australians in this area, with early on, over 200 employed on his land. No doubt the work was hard, and locations remote and lonely. But Boyd was creating an improving lifestyle and wealth for all who wished to take part in these enterprises. It is reported that those aborigines who knew Boyd respected him, and some named their children after him. Boyd found them to be excellent ‘shepherds’. There is no doubt that immigration to Australia was encouraged by his success, and certainly those from the Pacific Islands were among these new arrivals. Boyd had the ability to transport them here if they wished, and provide for them until established. He was needing of labour due to exponential growth of his enterprises. No doubt many of the Islanders succeeded in their new land, sadly, no doubt others struggled. Boyd again reports that he found many of the Islanders to be excellent ‘shepherds’.</p> <p>Unfortunately Boyd had to look outside of Australia for labour due to the shortage here and the lack of firm policy to bring free settlers from the England. His ships made a number of trips to the Islands, on recruiting ventures. Whether the opportunities here were oversold or not, is unknown, but what is known and remains the case today, is that Pacific Islanders looked to Australia for employment. A particular problem to Boyd was that the then legal ‘indenture’ document under the ‘Masters and Servants Act’ which the Islanders were asked to sign, was made ‘exempt’ for Islanders (a most insulting description of them is used in the legislation), by the NSW Government at this very time. Such an agreement was not unusual at the time giving certainty and reciprocity of employment, in any Boyd enterprise, for 5 years. This gave security to both parties to the document. However, it was now cancelled and once the Islanders knew they were no longer ‘bonded’ Boyd lost control of all</p>	

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		<p>of them, and they were by their transfer to Australia, enabled to seek other opportunities. Surely this is the ultimate in racism, citizens were now unable to contract with ‘savages’, and in so doing enable them a better life. This good man, Boyd was prepared to contract and trust these so called ‘savages’, but forces in NSW obviously did not want them to prosper here. Boyd was not showing racism, indeed the reverse.</p> <p>About this time Oct 1847, upon the unfortunate death of an Islander whose body was found far to the North, on the rocks in Sydney Harbour, and Boyd was blamed, his response is significant being <i>‘I should not consider myself in any degree responsible, even if the unfortunate man alluded to had been one of the persons introduced by me, inasmuch as the wisdom of a late law passed after they were engaged, placed them beyond my control and protection’.</i></p> <p>This statement clearly states that if the Islanders had not been prevented by the law change of staying in his employment, Boyd would have considered them to be under his protection.</p> <p>About this time, appalling accusations of blackbirding were made against Boyd. It is a shame that today these accusations are repeated and in fact, renewed in the Guardian and quite shockingly repeated now on the web page of North Sydney Council. This accusation should be removed immediately. In a special enquiry led by the highly regarded Governor, Sir Charles Fitzroy in 1847 (1846 to 1855), Boyd and his ship captains were cleared of any black birding or slavery activities. Boyd was a far more intelligent and effective man than that. Those who continue this accusation today seem to be ignorant of history. The NSW settlement was set up at the time when the anti- slavery movement was at its strongest in the English Parliament. Records show that, in the establishment of the colony, neither George III nor Governor Arthur Phillip had any heart for slavery. Under the Kings personal direction Phillip was directed to treat the aborigines with respect and care. Phillip needed no encouragement. In his preparation of the First Fleet, he wrote ‘there shall be no slavery in a free land’. After decades of being on the edge of passing in the House, Wilberforce’s anti-slavery legislation was passed in 1833 making slavery illegal in England and all the Dominions, long before Boyd arrived in Australia. Boyd was cleared of slavery charges at that time, by the valid courts applicable at that time.</p> <p>Unfortunately, it seems quite clear that the blackbirding accusations against Boyd, were more due to racism than any care for the Pacific Islanders. There were strong influences within the British and NSW Governments to ensure that the Colony remained British. Boyd’s encouragement of Pacific Island immigration potentially established another race. Boyd was hugely criticised and ostracised by the upper social tiers of NSW society. Many such people had never held much concern for slavery, they were more concerned about racial cohesion. It is a tragic fact that such influences were also exhibited and practiced against the aborigines. This scar on the character of our Nation continued well into the 20th Century as the White Australia Policy.</p> <p>The demise of the Boyd Empire is a story that has been told, and there is not time or need to speak of this here. Except to say that certainly there would have been no one more disappointed than Boyd himself at this failure. He may have pushed things further than his funding allowed, and the business environment turned against him. There were huge pressures on him by the Colony. He was generous in the support of others. Unfortunately his infrastructure was not given time to reap its benefits. Let’s hope that the tragedy of these events did not way upon this visionary man so much, to have to end it all, lonely and at his own hand in the Solomons.</p> <p>I ask North Sydney Council to withdraw this accusation as Boyd was exonerated of this charge legally in 1847. This is the law of our land, and we all should abide by it. This visionary, amazing entrepreneur should be treated with the respect he well and truly earned. Please do not continue this injustice by promulgating these superficial, agenda driven, attempts at rewriting history.</p> <p>We look forward to the ‘Wanderer’ plaque being relaunched very soon, on the corner of Ben Boyd Road and Kurraba Road.</p>	
72	Richard Blower	<p>We cannot change history, but we should learn from it. The road sign as it is currently is a reminder of where the human race was wrong in the past. Removing the name Ben Boyd, and similar gestures such as Rhodesia changing its name, will simply hinder future generations from understanding where we went wrong in the past.</p>	YES
73	Robert Craig	<p>This proposal is a waste of time. Council employees should be serving the ratepayers, not trying to re-write history. I don’t think that the name of</p>	NO

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No.	Name and Address	Submission	Position
	12/40 Grasmere Ln CREMORNE	a road honours the person named. If Ben Boyd had an unsavoury past, then the highlighting of him will only bring attention to his activities. I experience, every day, the damage done by Council to people who need to use Sutherland Street, Cremorne, because of a rarely used bike lane. Also, the decision to close Young Street was sheer lunacy. It's an eyesore. Please get back to working for the ratepayers.	
74	Robyn Deny	Keep it. If we cancel every road name in Sydney, there are some who'll find something else to complain about. You can't erase history.	NO
75	Rosemary Adams	I do not support the name change.	NO
76	Roy Milford	I am writing the email to council to vent my total disapproval at the ridiculous suggestion of renaming Ben Boyd Road. I was totally furious at such a suggestion. The past is the past and we must now look to the future. I believe the role of council is to devote all of its efforts in doing all it can for its constituents and not wasting time and money dragging up the past. I'm sure there are many people and place names that would nor stand up to such intense scrutiny of their past. As my family has been residing in Neutral Bay for the past forty years we would feel totally let down if this proposal were to proceed. If any of the three alternate option were to be used I would seriously consider moving away to another suburb.	NO
77	Sally Fennell 2/130 Ben Boyd Rd NEUTRAL BAY	I am totally opposed to the changing of the name of Ben Boyd Rd and the proposed alternate names. If you did a survey of the origins of the name Ben Boyd I would believe that before this ludicrous name change was instigated no one would have heard of Ben Boyd. Now you have made him noteworthy. I have lived on Ben Boyd Rd for a number of years and have only ever thought of it as a pretty name. What will be the cost of the name change? Also think about the disruption to residents this change will bring. Unfortunately this name change is only following the disturbing prevalence in the community "to rewrite history". "If it ain't broke, don't fix it" - Finally a quote worth noting History is not there for you to like or dislike. It is there for you to learn from it. And if it offends you, even better. Because you are less likely to repeat it. It's not yours to erase or destroy.	NO
78	Sam Fung CREMORNE	No - don't change. Our society's morals are constantly shifting and will judge good behaviour, speech and thought as bad one day and vice versa. For example, if we discovered Barangaroo made offensive remarks that hurt a group of people I don't think we should erase her. History, uncensored, with all its warts provides concrete reasoned argument for decision making for present and future generations.	NO
79	Sara Green NEUTRAL BAY	Although Ben Boyd is undoubtedly a man of historically bad deeds, he is dead. Would many living today associate that road name with honouring a man who did things that we would not condone today? If so, all British-based street names countrywide need to be changed. My sympathy lies with those hundreds of unfortunate residents of that road - alive today - and the massive inconvenience to them of changing their address because of some long dead man who acted in accordance with the thinking of his day. Today's residents will have the enormous task of changing anything on which their street address appears - mortgages, car rego, insurances, drivers license, employment details, credit cards, etc , etc, etc. Not to mention informing their Christmas card list. Why are you proposing to punish them for the acts of a dead man 150 years later. This is Political Correctness gone mad. As usual. I do not agree that Ben Boyd Road should be renamed. Haven't you got anything better to do with my rates money? If not, please reduce our rates.	NO
80	Simone Lehmann 20 Ben Boyd Rd NEUTRAL BAY	I have completed the survey to advise that I do not want the name of Ben Boyd Road to change. I would, however, like to add that if the name change is supported, then I think the residents only of Ben Boyd Road should be collectively consulted on the results of the preferred name change. Ben Boyd Road residents should subsequently be given the option to decide if the new name is what they wish to be adopted for their street or take a final survey (Ben Boyd Road residents only) with the three optional names to reconfirm that the name decided from consultation	NO

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No.	Name and Address	Submission	Position
		with the whole of North Sydney Council is ultimately the name that Ben Boyd Road residents want for their road. ¹	
81	Stephen Berry 7/115 Ben Boyd Rd NEUTRAL BAY	I voted not to change the name of Ben Boyd Road on the Council web site, because I have issues with overzealous Political Correctness with expunging our history. After further consideration the renaming of Ben Boyd Road does appeal to me, despite the hassles it will have with personal documentation. ² Option 1 - Barangaroo Road, does not appeal because there is already a new Suburb of Barangaroo and Barangaroo Avenue and will lead to potential confusion along with the name change from Ben Boyd Road. I think Neutral Bay Road is okay. However I rather like Reconciliation Road, not so much the Ben Boyd blackbirding cheap labour aspect, but because of:- <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The history of Neutral Bay as neutral territory in the early days of the conflict • The desire for reconciliation with Indigenous Australia as a whole • And maybe - Neutral Bay as the site of Design of the joining of our flats in 1997 (115 Ben Boyd Road), • first manufacture of the first sewn flags at Harry West Flags next to Milson Park in 1998 including one sent to HM The Queen in November 1998, and the first Sunburnt Flag raising at the Overseas Terminal at Circular Quay, live on Channel 10 morning news at 11 am on 13/11/1998 (48 hours after Remembrance Day) – by an Aboriginal Australia, a Migrant Australian and myself as a 4th generation white Aussie. • Dedication joining of our flags at the Uniting Church ANZAC Day 2010 in Yeo St which crosses Ben Boyd Road at Neutral Bay Public School • 2015 – World Vexillology Congress Sydney – 35 World Flag experts sign a Sunburnt Flag as a worthwhile future Australian Inclusive Flag 	NO
82	Stephen Hansen 206 Ben Boyd Rd NEUTRAL BAY	I strongly make an objection to the proposed changing of the road name Ben Boyd Rd. This is an example of political correctness gone mad. History cannot be righted. This proposal would involve considerable costs to all stakeholders for what material benefit. There is a high degree of potential problems should this proposal go ahead for all stakeholders. Do those looking to change the name live in our street? Only those living in our street should have a say as they are the ones who will feel the impact of changing the name. Council should be addressing issues which the ratepayers are concerned with e.g. footpaths roads and parks, not the name of a street. Already Council has wasted rate payers funds in sending out numerous letters re this totally insignificant issue. Ben Boyd Rd is a well-known street name in Sydney please do not change.	NO
83	Susanne Jones 10 Spruss St NEUTRAL BAY	I reject the suggestion that Ben Boyd Road should be renamed. I lived in Ben Boyd Road almost half my life and now live, but one street back in Spruson Street. I feel that the "Black Lives Matter" movement in the USA, Australia and of course in the rest of the world is essential to draw attention to injustices, however, history cannot be changed! All lives matter and slavery still exists in many ways today What can be changed, from this day forward is what we learn from it and how we can change our future actions/thoughts. Perhaps a plaque with details of his action/activities in regard to this matter could be placed next to the present plaque at the bottom of Ben Boyd Road. This would allow the public to have the full story and perhaps be educated in the true history of this man.	NO
84	T Faulkner 26/224-230 Ben Boyd Rd CREMORNE	As a ratepayer I am totally against the proposal to rename Ben Boyd Road. The naming of this road and its history are part of the fabric of Neutral Bay. In its day it wasn't considered unlawful to obtain cheap labour the way Ben Boyd did. Leave our history alone.	NO
85	Taka Osaki	Please change to Neutral Bay Rd.	YES

¹ Submitter also completed survey

² Submitter also completed survey

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No.	Name and Address	Submission	Position
86	Strata Plan 22291 211 Ben Boyd Rd (1 Grosvenor St) NEUTRAL BAY	At the Annual General Meeting of 211 Ben Boyd road convened 15 July 2021 the owners present discussed Council's intention to give consideration to renaming Ben Boyd road. It was resolved as the attached Minutes will reflect that the Owners Corporation agreed it unnecessary to change the name at this time. Strata Partners as the managing agents were requested to convey this to Council.	NO
87	Strata Plan 31029 64 Spruson St NEUTRAL BAY	We wholeheartedly request you abandon your efforts to rename Ben Boyd Road, which is a significant part of Neutral Bay's history. Please stick to the jobs you are elected to do.	NO
88	Tracy Rockwell	<p>I stem from a proud convict ancestry with pioneering forebears that once resided on the Far South Coast at the time Ben Boyd was so prominent in his settlement of the region. I was therefore mortified to read your judgment of his character and business acumen as being so extraordinarily skewed to only highlight that he 'may have been involved in blackbirding', without any mention of his extraordinary exertions to stimulate Sydney's north, the settlement of Eden, and the building up of both the far south coast and the colony at the time.</p> <p>I sincerely hope that in order to arrive at the woeful and regrettable action your Council is considering i.e. the renaming of Ben Boyd Road, that someone within your organisation has rigorously gone through the very well documented history of Ben Boyd. Having found fault, according to your background statement, that he 'may have pioneered the practice of securing cheap labour from the South Sea Islands known as blackbirding,' please let's hope that the judgement is impartial. For example, has it occurred to anyone in your organisation, that there is little if any historic documentation for the indigenous individuals this spiteful action purports to protect. Therefore, might it thus be the case that these individuals could have themselves sexually abused children, beaten and raped women, or committed murder and even extermination upon individuals and surrounding tribes? Their anonymity combined with an obvious lack of evidence protects any such crimes, but if an indigenous rapist or murderer were to be identified, would North Sydney Council be brave enough to cancel such an indigenous miscreant?</p> <p>I am as unwilling as others, to interfere with the amusements and privileges of our indigenous brethren, but I cannot help expose your Council's appallingly anti-racist and bigoted consideration to expunge the past, as if anyone can morally and fairly judge history across a span of 175 years. Your ridiculous action in considering the renaming of Ben Boyd Road is as disturbing as it is outrageous... another wacky increment in the growing agenda of the far left... that cancel culture mob!!</p>	NO
89	Vanessa Baumer-Rowley	<p>Firstly can I start by saying that whilst I don't believe in the blackbirding process or in any process that has exploited peoples own freedom and the use of slavery, however history is a story from the past and a chance for us to learn what others have done and look at how we can change our actions. What was done in the past was horrific but not only to those from a coloured race but also the horrific things done to white people. Dating back all throughout history "mankind" has been extremely cruel to other mankind and it is only in the last century that we are realising that these practices need to stop. We can't change what has happened and therefore should just leave the street named as it is. We all need to also accept and remember people for the good that they have done and not only focus on the bad that one has done.</p> <p>Ben Boyd accomplished many good things and as a pioneer in a new country also did practices that are frowned upon. As was one of the largest landowners in NSW he could not get workers which gave him the thought to take from the islands, whilst unethical, however it was unlike the slaves on the plantation in America who were sent there for life. The islanders Ben took were only taken for 5 years and then paid 26 shillings a year and given 10lbs of meat a week along with being clothed, they were then sent back home with the money that they made. Prior to the black lives movement my son did an assignment on him and the information in regards to the blackbirding topic said that the NSW legislative council deemed this practice to be unethical and changed the legislation, he was taken to trial and found to be innocent of cruel practice however now in wikipedia there is no mention of his trial and only highlights all the wrong that took place. I think if we went and looked at Captain Cook from a negative angle there would be practices that they did which in our day would be deemed as highly unethical. All the convicts were taken to</p>	NO

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No.	Name and Address	Submission	Position
		<p>Australia against their will even though some were only convicts because they stole a loaf of bread to feed their starving family. Does that mean we are to take away Captain Cook from our history pages also and take down every structure at tax payers expense.</p> <p>By changing the name of Ben Boyd Rd means a countless waste of money. Every house and business would need new stationary wasting paper, and building signage.</p> <p>Can we all just accept that whilst he did some wrong he also did a lot of good things. Please North Sydney Council just leave the name the same and put back the plaque and tell the public that he was taken to trial in 1848 and no charges were made. Aren't we supposed to deem a man innocent when the law says he is? These days the practice of taking workers from the islands, paying them cheaper wages and having them work on all the fruit farms in Queensland still takes place as we can't find enough Australians wanting to do the work, but yet people don't seem to comment on that?</p>	
90	Warren & Jeanette Krass 36 Premier St NEUTRAL BAY	Please register our opposition to the renaming of Ben Boyd Road. In opposing the renaming we do not support blackbirding or slavery, or anything like it.	NO
91	Yvonne Bartels 1003/221 Ben Boyd Rd NEUTRAL BAY	It would present a major inconvenience to all whose address this currently is (including mine). While I do not think Ben Boyd was a man whom we should hold in high regard, I think the inconvenience of a renaming outweighs the argument about his character. A positive consequence of the debate is that Ben Boyd has become known for what he was.	NO
92	Zoe McGrath 39A Burlington St CROWS NEST	I'm very much in favour of changing the name of the road - I think any of the 3 options are great although prefer Barangaroo Road as it highlights an important Indigenous figure in the area's history.	YES
93	Judith Klein 9/7 Wulworra Ave CREMORNE POINT	I am against it. Many years ago I worked in the Geographical Names Board of New South Wales. During that time there was a suggestion to change the name of Bedlam Bay. It was near the site of an old mental asylum and some of the inhabitants of the area felt it should have a more positive name. (The word Bedlam comes from a shortening of the name of the hospital of St Mary of Bethlehem in London, an institution for the insane.) But the Board did not approve because it was felt that the name reflected our history. And even though it was grim, it would be unwise to try to sanitise our past. The plight and sufferings of many unhappy souls might be forgotten. But their shadows would remain. Other reasons that I would like to retain the name of the road are that it reflects the diversity of our colourful past. And I love the little image of Boyd's ship which is located on the junction of Ben Boyd Road and Kurraba Road.	NO
94	Sarah Michael	Leave the same. You can't change history. Changing a street name does not change anything. What will be next.	NO
95	Dr Thomas Csihar	Bloody idiots. You must be out of your minds at this Council. Absolutely, not sheer, bloody madness.	NO
96	Alice Bajalli	The street name don't need to be changed.	NO
97	K L Perry 268 West St	I think it's important not to erase history, otherwise it is forgotten. I can appreciate the symbolism attached to the name change, however an explanatory note indicating the historical aspects of Ben Boyd is probably more informative and useful for future generations.	NO

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No.	Name and Address	Submission	Position
	CAMMERAY		
98	Deirdre 20 Warwick Ave CAMMERAY	No - to change of Ben Boyd Road name.	NO
99	P Hamilton 2A Nicolson St CHATSWOOD	I would actively encourage North Sydney Council to create new names for council parks with aboriginal names - as recognition of history of the area to European settlement. I strongly disagree with changing name of Ben Boyd Road due to inconvenience to landowners changing address - just to satisfy a radical cancel council minority who are trying to be politically correct but do not represent the majority of the community.	NO
100	Mary Fitzpatrick 34 Illiliwa St CREMORNE	Keep same name. Too confusing to change it.	NO
101	Ray Durham 60 Sutherland St CREMORNE	I do not believe Ben Boyd Road should be renamed. Let us learn to live with our history rather than trying to expunge it, AKA cancel culture	NO
102	Anonymous	Leave the road name to be Ben Boyd. It does not matter that Ben Boyd is an historical person. The road name should be left as Ben Boyd.	NO
103	Trish Kilkeary 4/18 Oaks Ave CREMORNE	I do not support renaming Ben Boyd Road.	NO
104	Will Prest 22 Murdoch St CREMORNE POINT	No	NO
105	William Rollo 101/402-420 Pacific Hwy CROWS NEST	Don't rename.	NO
106	Tim Mussared 11/1 Spains Wharf Rd KURRABA POINT	Thank you for the opportunity to contribute to the debate on the naming or re-naming of Ben Boyd Road. Up front, I am strongly opposed to the renaming of any street or site or other such, based on re-interpreted historical understanding. Hiding the reality of the past does not alter the facts. The indenturing of south sea islanders happened, but the only way we are going to understand the injustice of such a system is by recognising its reality. I am all for an honest reappraisal of Ben Boyd's contribution to our nation and suggest this be acknowledged through education and observance. Once we start altering and hiding history we are bound to repeat the mistakes of the past - indenturing happened let's acknowledge and get on to more important things. Renaming an existing street 'reconciliation' would have to be the most cringe-worthy act we could do towards the process of reconciliation.	NO

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No.	Name and Address	Submission	Position
		Naming a street 'reconciliation' does not bring about reconciliation. Likewise, naming a street Barangaroo isn't helpful when there is already a Barangaroo on the other side of the harbour. What about Neutral Bay? Having just talked about 'reconciliation', how galling can it be to call the street 'Neutral Bay' confirming empire supremacy, having decided not to call it 'reconciliation' or 'barangaroo'. None of the three suggested alternatives are in any way acceptable. Let sleeping dogs lie.	
107	Andrew Kremer 14 Penshurt Ave KURRABA POINT	We are opposed to this proposed change. The proposal is based on incorrect information about the activities of Ben Boyd. The Australian Dictionary of Biography - Summary by G.P Walsh 1966 covers much of his activities. Blackbirding is commonly referred to as forcible or kidnapped transfer of the persons from the south sea islands. The practice was more common in North Australia. His efforts were to provide additional cheap labour without forcible transfers as noted in results of the enquiry by Sir Charles Fitzroy in 1847. Ben Boyd's activities were mostly focussed on the development of grazing in the Monaro region and developing around Twofold Bay with Boydtown, whaling etc. having raised substantial funds in UK and investing this in NSW. Council should retain the name Ben Boyd Road. As residents since 1978 we strongly object to this proposal.	NO
108	Alexander Kreisler 7 Lavender St LAVENDER BAY	Countries like Austria and Germany have found an alternative in leaving the old street names intact and installing an explanatory plaque next to them. A good compromise, IMHO.	NO
109	Jayne Bentivoglio 25 Mossy Rock Rd MOVAVALE	Please do not change the name of Ben Boyd Road.	NO
110	Talia Morgan 43 Musgrave St MOSMAN	Leave it as Ben Boyd Road.	NO
111	Mark Punturiero 1A Bond St MOSMAN	Leave the road as Ben Boyd Rd.	NO
112	Kim Alvarez 31/180 Spit Rd MOSMAN	One cannot change history by renaming roads. Nor is it wise to judge past events on today's values. Ben Boyd is part of our history like it or not. To change it leads us to all other historic figures whose actions are now questionable e.g. Bligh and Macarthur etc and all other governors who were in charge when 'atrocities', by today's standards, in Australian history were undertaken. Do not rename Ben Boyd Rd.	NO
113	Ryan Kiss 95 Rangers Rd MOSMAN	Don't change the name	NO
114	F.S. & V.M. Dundas 26 Countess St MOSMAN	My wife and I do not believe that the name of Ben Boyd Rd should Not be changed. History is the story of this country and the people involved and should not be re-written or changed. Modern values or social mores cannot and should not be applied to past events. It is very concerning that Council should give consideration to such a name change. I suggest that the cost involved to make such a change is a waste of ratepayer	NO

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No.	Name and Address	Submission	Position
		funds and would be better spent in traditional Council activities such as improving the drainage problems around the North Sydney Local Government Area. It is also of concern that Council characterises Ben Boyd as a slave trader without any mention of the positive contributions that he made to the Lower North Shore and the fledgling Australian economy. In short leave the name alone, ignore the do-gooders and get on with the practical work of a local Council.	
115	Richard Orr 18d Morella Rd MOSMAN	I wish to lodge my objection to the proposal by North Sydney Council to change the name of Ben Boyd Road and demand that that the name of this road be retained as Ben Boyd Road. This Road was named in recognition of Benjamin Boyd and his contribution to the establishment of North Sydney, during the early years of the settlement of the northern suburbs of Sydney. Ben Boyd Road is an Historically significant feature of our community and the events leading to the development of our Northern suburbs. Council would be committing an act of Historical Vandalism, if it were to proceed with this ridiculous proposal. Changing the name of a place or Road, results in the loss of the History of events which occurred in that place and importantly the location and whereabouts on Maps and Charts. Future generations would be denied this knowledge! Notwithstanding the disruption, economic costs on business and individual households, the proposal has no viability. I am disappointed, but not surprised that North Sydney Council would consider such a proposal. It is time to move on, as whatever Historical events Council considers to be offensive today, were accepted in civilized society and by government at the time. It is also not within Council's charter to impose a Political mindset on the residents and ratepayers in an endeavour to satisfy the personal misguided beliefs of Councillor's belonging to this "Cancel Culture" movement. North Sydney Council urgently needs transformation. The ousting of Councillor's with a "Politically Correct" mindset is long overdue. Beware Cr Brodie. Whether Council likes it or not Ben Boyd Road will be staying, if it wishes to survive the next Election.	NO
116	Fiona Kerr Grant 303/221 Ben Boyd Rd NEUTRAL BAY	Please leave the name as it is, Ben Boyd Road.	NO
117	Fy 56 Raymond Rd NEUTRAL BAY	Keep name and install a plaque outlining his history. We can't expunge history, we should use this as an education piece.	NO
118	Mr Roy Milford 1/49-53 Ben Boyd Rd NEUTRAL BAY	I am totally against such a ridiculous proposal of renaming Ben Boyd Road and would like to know who was responsible for the alternate road names. As for Ben Boyd's past history are we to go back and research all the good and bad things that relate to the names of all public roads and facilities?	NO
119	Julian Mina 24 Barry St NEUTRAL BAY	I think the street name should remain as is.	NO
120	Tessa Bennett 1 Kurraba Rd NEUTRAL BAY	While not condoning the historical actions of Ben Boyd, this seems like and absurd waste of my rate payers money. Also, the 3 proposed names are absurd.	NO

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No.	Name and Address	Submission	Position
130	Jonathan Grant 112 Ben Boyd Rd NEUTRAL BAY	Really bad idea.	NO
131	Alex 1 Watson Rd NEUTRAL BAY	No renaming, judging someone by a single attribute is as primitive as a living bacteria.	NO
132	Rossana Gussoni 100 Ben Boyd Rd NEUTRAL BAY	I vote to keep the name Ben Boyd Rd. No point in erasing history. I live on Ben Boyd Rd.	NO
133	Robert Pizzie 29 Raymond Rd NEUTRAL BAY	I'm against the renaming of Ben Boyd Rd. Agree to this and you'll be renaming everything.	NO
134	Tim Singleton 54/154 Ben Boyd Rd NEUTRAL BAY	You can't alter history by changing a place name. I suggest a suitable memorial at the end of the road [harbour end] to promote reconciliation.	NO
135	Vivienne Woodwards 1/47 Barry St NEUTRAL BAY	Do not agree with the changing the name. History is what it is. Sick of this woke agenda.	NO
136	T. Hall-Johnston 24 Phillips St NEUTRAL BAY	"That men do not learn very much from the lessons of history is the most important of all the lessons of history." We should keep the name rather than hide from the lessons history teaches us should we actually take time to notice and learn..... But if not and the majority are against keeping the name then lets replace it with another resident legacy... May Gibbs Rd. A name that means something to THIS community (which the proposed names are lacking).	NO
137	Melissa Stanton 52 Raymond Rd NEUTRAL BAY	Leave the name as 'Ben Boyd Road'.	NO
138	Margaret & John Heathers 73 Ben Boyd Rd NEUTRAL BAY	Having lived in Ben Boyd Road most of our lives, over 50 years, we find the suggestion of changing the name of "Ben Boyd Road" to another is most extraordinary. It looks to us to be an example of "Cancel Culture". The history of how one man behaved 200 years ago cannot be changed. History is written. Many people in history have acted badly by modern standards but that doesn't mean we should rearrange our lives by judging and condemning them by modern standards. By all means, interpret and analyse history by current standards but we should not cancel someone for actions 200 years ago. This would imply we cancel Captain Cook, Arthur Philip and very many other colonial governors and administrators who all would be partly seen in a negative light if judged by modern standards.	NO

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No.	Name and Address	Submission	Position
		<p>We completely reject the concept of a name change for Ben Boyd Road. It is a bad idea and would affect many hundreds of residents and ratepayers in their personal lives because of the need to each change hundreds of documents; huge numbers of investment /share documents, utility documents, private company documents, printed stationery, charity registrations, registered business names and many others. This huge amount of work would be a massive inconvenience to the residents of the whole road</p> <p>We accept that there is concern about the historical attributes of Benjamin Boyd. Concerning the 1931 historical plaques, restored by the Council at the lower end of Ben Boyd Road, we suggest that an additional interpretive panel be installed that places his actions in historical context and condemns his actions where appropriate, while also lauding his positive achievements as an early pioneer and entrepreneur. However, we reject the idea of punishing the existing street inhabitants through a name change and the massive inconvenience involved.</p> <p>We humbly request that North Sydney Council focus its resources on activities such as bettering the environment, improving the roads and footpaths, bus stops, parks, road crossings, parking, development applications, street plantings, markets, local fairs, drainage, community spaces, safety issues and garbage collections. We vote for councillors to handle these issues which are tangible, relevant and universal, not to attempt to obliterate history while causing massive inconvenience.</p> <p>Therefore we ask Council to take a measured approach, not a cancel culture knee-jerk reaction involving a waste of time and money. We oppose the change to the name Ben Boyd Road and request that Council considers the great disruption and inconvenience to the residents and ratepayers who live in Ben Boyd Road and reject any proposed name change.</p>	
139	50/250 Ben Boyd Rd NEUTRAL BAY	How many people are aware let alone care what Ben Boyd did a century and a half ago? It takes a feeble council like North Sydney to champion such a change which denies what actually happened historically. Surely Council should stick to what it is meant to do (it doesn't do such a good job that ratepayers money couldn't be better spent)	NO
140	Adele 295 Ben Boyd Rd NEUTRAL BAY	Renaming would cause a great disruption living on Ben Boyd Rd and those nearby. As was mentioned in the proposal, Ben Boyd Road is a major road within Neutral Bay and is often used as a landmark or point of reference. Even if the name of the road was changed, reference to it would still be "Old Ben Boyd Road" for local residents and would not change anything. Most people would not even refer back to the Benjamin Boyd, or even know it was named after such a person. Such a change is pointless, and is disruptive to the immediate local community.	NO
141	Beris Tomkins 4 Yeo St NEUTRAL BAY	I am definitely against changing the name of Ben Boyd Rd. One cannot change history, There would be so many more names that certain people would want to change where would it all end? At this time, surely we have more important things to be concerned about.	NO
142	Robyn de Szoeker 3/42 Aubin St NEUTRAL BAY	Don't change the name	NO
143	Sylvia Olomany 306/21 Grosvenor St NEUTRAL BAY	I don't know who initiated this proposed name changing but it does seem like political correctness gone mad, just like in the UK and elsewhere. Whilst abhorrent to us, 200 years ago slavery etc was considered a norm just like the fact that women were chattels of their fathers, husbands, weren't allowed to own property etc. History is just that - history. To start changing every road and monument because the person concerned has in this new millennium been found to be not a worthy person is nonsensical. Most people, me included have no idea who Ben Boyd was and nor do they care. To start changing the streets of a lovely old suburb like Neutral Bay is wrong. It's a point of reference for people in and out of the suburb and it achieves nothing (except to salve the conscience of a small minority) by changing the name. Barangaroo is associated with the Crown Casino precinct and because it's so well known, it will confuse all and sundry. Neutral is just that - it evokes nothing! And Reconciliation is	NO

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No.	Name and Address	Submission	Position
		just inappropriate and does not fit in with all the other streets in the area. If you must change things, why not name it after May Gibbs - Gibbs Road sounds a lot better than what is proposed and is appropriate.	
144	Alasdair MacDonald 19-25 Grosvenor St NEUTRAL BAY	Leave as Ben Boyd Road as it is a part of our history.	NO
145	Phil Kerrigan 24 Ben Boyd Ln CREMORNE	The name should not be changed. Our history should not be changed. By all means put a couple of plaques on the road to explain who Ben Boyd really was.	NO
146	Dianne Burgoyne 50 Aubin St NEUTRAL BAY	You can't change history. It's ridiculous to even contemplate changing the name because of politically correct idealism today - he became famous at a time when ideals were different for actions that were thought to be valid in his day. What do people think they're going to achieve by renaming the road. Reconciliation Road smacks of paternalism to me.	NO
147	Ashley Wood 4/50 Ben Boyd Rd NEUTRAL BAY	It is best to retain the Ben Boyd Road name. If changed it would take a lot of work to inform many of my 'change of address'. Ben Boyd though said to be notorious is part of Australia's history. Should Ned Kelly be eradicated from history because of his notoriety? The list is very long of such folk 'heroes'. To change and not recognize history is to take political correctness - once again - too far.	NO
148	Paul Jacombs 126 Ben Boyd Rd NEUTRAL BAY	Seriously? I think this is a waste of rate payer's time and money, not to mention all the costs and inconvenience associated with changing this. No one knew who Ben Boyd was or what he did until a few months ago. Who cares? It is part of our history which we can't undo but has no bearing on today's society. Political correctness has gone too far.	NO
149	Esme Parker 402/206 Ben Boyd Rd NEUTRAL BAY	I believe the name of Ben Boyd should remain. History is history and most names relating to early residents could be called into question over some issues which were acceptable at the time they lived but would not be acceptable today.	NO
150	Antony Bruce Doig 15/224-230 Ben Boyd Rd NEUTRAL BAY	I am extremely opposed to this on two levels: 1. I live on Ben Boyd Rd. It would be a serious burden to update all my addresses for my family and my business which is registered as being on Ben Boyd Rd. No one *not* living on this street should have a say in this matter as they will not be affected like those of us who live here. 2. I am extremely opposed to any woke movements etc, including renaming, history erasing or altering. It was already approved a long time ago (to name places after Ben Boyd) and his own deeds were well know at that time. If I wanted to live amongst woke people I would live in Glebe or Newtown. I chose to live here as people are not like this. If its name is changed I will vote against any Council member who is in favour of it.	NO
151	Ashley McPhee 130 Ben Boyd Rd NEUTRAL BAY	Leave the name as is and focus on essential services for the community.	NO

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No.	Name and Address	Submission	Position
152	Robert Foster 49-53 Ben Boyd Rd NEUTRAL BAY	I strongly disagree with the proposal to rename Ben Boyd Road, Neutral Bay. The correspondence and statements issued by North Sydney Council are biased in that they only portray the negatives of Ben Boyd's life and do not offer any balance in that they do not recognise or acknowledge any of his achievements and positive contributions. We cannot change history, nor should we, or retrospectively apply current community standards to past events which may have been regarded as acceptable in their day. I also do not believe that North Sydney Council should be involved in these type of issues and waste rate payers money.	NO
153	Susan White 103/206-210 Ben Boyd Rd NEUTRAL BAY	I notice that the employment of cheap labour from the south seas is the reason. This is still going on and not only from the south seas and sanctioned by the federal government and probably states and local governments. I notice that various industries are complaining that the pandemic lockdown etc is effecting their business as the cheap labour is not allowed into Australia in most cases. So trying to wipe out something that was allowed in the 19th century when is still happening, just read the newspapers or watch the television on the exploitation of labour. There is/was a plaque on the wall at the southern end of Ben Boyd Road - remove that.	NO
154	Rod Austin 75 Ben Boyd Rd NEUTRAL BAY	Appreciate concerns but history is history and to change is a major inconvenience.	NO
155	Raoul de Ferranti 13/9 Hayes St NEUTRAL BAY	The name Ben Boyd Road should be retained. History, both good and bad, should not be expunged.	NO
156	B. Davies 601/206 Ben Boyd Rd NEUTRAL BAY/ G. Rosevear 602/206 Ben Boyd Rd NEUTRAL BAY	<p>We are vehemently opposed to any renaming of Ben Boyd Road. There are thousands of people who live in this precinct and such action would involve each and every one of them in considerable expense. The extent of such outlay covers numerous fields including home services, financial, identity, motor vehicles, contacts, registers, investments and that is just personal. Then there are the added costs to Council, businesses and other instrumentalities. The changes to GPS is another modern day impact.</p> <p>The first question that must be asked with such a proposal is why? Modern day slavery is abhorrent to most people but life was different in years gone by and we should not endeavour to expunge part of our history just because some people have had a rush of blood to the head. What is needed is a rational and common sense approach to the whole matter. If it was felt necessary to record present day attitudes, a simple plaque alongside the existing would complete the story.</p> <p>A second question should be ' Do the complainants actually live on Ben Boyd Road or is their complaint a philosophical one rather than one of distaste for the environment in which they live? If the latter, the option of moving to another more acceptable address is always an option.</p> <p>Thirdly, this name has been in existence for more than 150 years. The suggestion of changing it after such a length of time beggars belief. In a country however, where one should treat alternative views with respect, the opportunity for pursuing legal action through the courts should not be underestimated.</p> <p>A further matter should be considered in relation to our forebears. Cook, Philip, Bligh and others regularly come in for criticism and, at times, vandalism. Should we revisit every street, building, monument, parkland etc that bears their names? As I continue, I think the absurdity of such action can be gleaned. We would urge Council to adopt a common sense and realistic approach to the renaming suggestion. Our history helps to shape our future. Not all history is good or well placed by today's standards but it is still our history - it happened- you can't change it!</p> <p>On a closing note, we would suggest that Council should also check with real estate agents in the area to discuss the potential ramifications, in terms of property values, before finalising their deliberations. It might be a sobering exercise. I can't imagine too many people being happy with living on Reconciliation Road!</p>	NO

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No.	Name and Address	Submission	Position
157	David Abernethy 78 Kiara Cl NORTH SYDNEY	Absolutely not! It's a load a woke *#*#*#*#...	NO
158	G Ford 3-5 West St NORTH SYDNEY	I strongly disagree with any name change - you can't change history. It becomes like trying to rewrite war crimes and say they never happened . there are good things and bad things in History and it is what happened - a bit like smoking for several generation smoking was acceptable - now people fully understand the health risks of smoking - it is about education. Defiantly do not change the name.	NO
149	David Wood 2a Gasworks Rd WOLLSTONECRAFT	In no way do I agree for the 'cancel culture' to change an historical name from a street in North Sydney because some person feels aggrieved by historical fact.	NO
150	Denise Shaw 35 Sinclair St WOLLSTONECRAFT	Unfortunately that name is historical and history can't be simply changed by a name, therefore it should remain the same, as too confusing to change for delivery purposes, Taxis/Ubbers, Couriers etc.	NO
151	Anonymous	I am sick and tired of political correctness. Are we to erase our history just because we are white? I am, as you will have gathered, totally against any renaming of this major north shore road which will in any event only cause confusion. Is it not enough that every aboriginal jurisdiction in this country is acknowledged and we are constantly "welcomed to country"? Get a grip North Sydney.	NO
152	Simeon John 2 Brightmore St CREMORNE	This is bittersweet participating in "yoursay" for the renaming (or not) of a street which has its roots steeped in the slave trade history. As a POC/black man having directly been impacted my whole life from the impacts of slavery, and still today facing the echoes of a not too distant past of genocide; I'm flabbergasted that again we would think this is correct protocol to put out the call to general public, without engaging the very people who have been most affected by the heinous crimes against humanity that brought us to this topic. "First Nations people" There is nothing right about keeping a name which has blood on "such as Australia" day for example which serves as a constant reminder of one of most horrific times in history. To simplify something which is impossible to simplify; if your parent, sibling, child, partner or even worse you let's say; were murdered on this street; would you want the name changed? Or kept the same? What would be the correct protocol for you if you're in the hot seat? Just imagine that for a second! Sit with it for a few minutes even. I have for the best part of 48 years. Many have for the last 400 plus years, First Nations people for the last 200 plus years. How you feeling after a minute or 2? Now ask yourself the question again, make sure no one around to influence you, turn off tv, move away from phone, no distraction from other people, sit with it yourself for a bit, then see what comes up! If the answer comes up "change the name" maybe we on the right track to rewriting history. If nothing comes up, maybe we have a lot to worry about, and god help us all, or whatever you believe in.	NOT STATED
153	Edwin Alexander &	Even if you don't agree then you should respect the fact that community opinion is divided and others hold a differing opinion ... and you should	NOT

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No.	Name and Address	Submission	Position
	Lockhart Nelson 42-44 Epping Rd LANE COVE	not impose such a controversial change where there is significant opposition. The names of streets parks and statutes should not be a forum for us to prosecute culture wars against one another. Where public opinion is divided the status quo should remain.	STATED
154	Simone Pichel 118 Shirley Rd WOLLSTONECRAFT	Great start! I never took the time to think what ... or who ben Boyd was! Also, do not clear the land where indigenous ppl met . It's not in your electorate ... but we can't keep shitting all over these people. Look at what happened to Burke... what a fool!!	NOT STATED
155	Raphael Palmer 21 Laycock St NEUTRAL BAY	Good idea to rename it.	YES - OTHER
156	Victor Sayers 26-30 Cranbrook Ave CREMORNE	The street should be renamed.	YES - OTHER
157	Peter Deans Oxford Falls Rd BEACON HILL	Barangaroo Rd appropriate.	YES - OPTION 1
158	Diane Jones 2/1A Belgrave St CREMORNE	Change the name to Barangaroo Road and also the lane to Barangaroo Lane.	YES - OPTION 1
159	Michael Dominish 31-20 Harrison St CREMORNE	Barangaroo Rd	YES - OPTION 1
160	Kate Groom 4/73 Cremorne Rd CREMORNE POINT	Change name to Barangaroo Road.	YES - OPTION 1
161	Kiri Libbesson 137 Kurraba Rd KURRABA POINT	I agree it should be changed. Preferably either Barangaroo Rd or something else acknowledging the Indigenous people and culture.	YES - OPTION 1
162	Kayla Macleod 9 Ben Boyd Rd NEUTRAL BAY	Option 1	YES - OPTION 1

Attachment 8.2.2 Attachment 2. Submissions Summary

No.	Name and Address	Submission	Position
163	Sharon Stone 23/242-240 Ben Boyd Rd NEUTRAL BAY	Barangaroo	YES - OPTION 1
164	Gregory Lording 3/4 Ben Boyd Rd NEUTRAL BAY	Barangaroo Road	YES - OPTION 1
165	Hollis Scoggin 13/136 Spencer St CREMORNE	I agree with the name change. Either Option 1 or 3 are good.	YES - OPTION 1 OR 3
166	Simon 130 Spencer St CREMORNE	Neutral Bay Road	YES - OPTION 2
167	Taka Osaki 224-230 Ben Boyd Rd NEUTRAL BAY	Change to Neutral Bay Rd	YES - OPTION 2
168	Shane 92 Ben Boyd Rd NEUTRAL BAY	Remove the name and call it Neutral Bay Rd.	YES - OPTION 2
169	Leah Dymus 22 Spruson St NEUTRAL BAY	Please call it Neutral Bay Road.	YES - OPTION 2
170	Kimberley Hawke 14/242 Ben Boyd Rd NEUTRAL BAY	Yes there is support for a name change. Preferred new name is option 2: Neutral Bay Road.	YES - OPTION 2
171	Michael Paton 254 Miller St NORTH SYDNEY	Neutral Bay Rd	YES - OPTION 2
172	Ross & Margaret Geddes	3. Reconciliation Road	YES - OPTION 3

Attachment 8.2.2 Attachment 2. Submissions Summary

No.	Name and Address	Submission	Position
	1/56 Young St CREMORNE		
173	Eliza Benecke 6 Medusa St MOSMAN	Vote to change it to Reconciliation Road.	YES - OPTION 3
174	Gabriel Porritt 6/109 Ben Boyd Rd NEUTRAL BAY	Reconciliation Road is my choice but I feel like we could do better. I've just moved into Ben Boyd Rd and love it's being changed but Barangaroo Rd will end up being a bit confusing for navigation given the suburb across the harbour. And Neutral Bay Rd is just a bit of a cop out isn't it.	YES - OPTION 3
175	Isabella 50-60 Clark Rd NORTH SYDNEY	Reconciliation Road	YES - OPTION 3
176	Jason Trump 1305/23 Shelley St SYDNEY	Reconciliation road sets the right tone.	YES - OPTION 3
177	John Blair 2/1 Bariston Ave CREMORNE	I fully agree to re-naming Ben Boyd Rd, Neutral Bay. Please ensure that it is renamed to reflect someone or something honourable eg honouring a local aboriginal for example. Be careful about using the name Barangaroo which is an 'over' development approved without complete transparency.	YES - OTHER
178	Chelsea Loewensohn 312/11 Wentworth St MANLY	I attended Neutral Bay Public School and I think changing the name would be an amazing lesson for the children there today!	YES - OTHER
179	Roslynn Pardy 24 Brierley St MOSMAN	Ben Boyd Road should be renamed	YES - OTHER
180	Peter Yates 3 Aubin St NEUTRAL BAY	I support the proposal to change the name of Ben Boyd Road. Let's stop celebrating someone who inflicted slavery conditions on indigenous peoples and make a bold move toward reconciliation.	YES - OTHER
181	Erin New 5/31 Ben Boyd Rd NEUTRAL BAY	The renaming should definitely occur. The renaming should definitely be indigenous	YES - OTHER

Attachment 8.2.2 Attachment 2. Submissions Summary

No.	Name and Address	Submission	Position
182	Beatrix Turi 4/82-86 Undercliff St NEUTRAL BAY	It is a good idea to rethink/ rename that street's name.	YES - OTHER
183	Margaret Lawlor 2/98 Kurraba Rd KURRABA POINT	I think it's a good idea to rename Ben Boyd Road. I'd like to suggest a couple of alternatives to the ones raised by Council, using aboriginal names for this area. I did some research using the Australian Museum and ANU material on the internet for aboriginal names. The first I'd like to suggest is Wurru-birri, which I like best. It relates to the western side of Kurraba Point, which seems very appropriate. The second is Wéyé Wéyé or Weeawya, which refers to Careening Cove, which the road also leads towards (almost!). I think the latter is more difficult to use, so my vote would go with Wurrubirri Road. Please let me know what you think. Thanks.	YES - OTHER
184	Rod Simpson 2/98 Kurraba Rd KURRABA POINT	I support the renaming of Ben Boyd Rd based on the information provided and I applaud North Sydney Council for taking this action. My choice is an Aboriginal name, Wurrubirri, which refers to the area west of Kurraba Point and therefor has direct relevance to the location of the road.	YES - OTHER
184	Robert Nixon 143-155 Ben Boyd Rd NEUTRAL BAY	I strongly believe Ben Boyd's name should be removed from the road name. I also agree that a plaque be installed, with additional details of Ben Boyd's character, alongside the existing plaque	YES - OTHER
186	Gavin Brightwell 225 Pacific Hwy NORTH SYDNEY	Change to: Cammerra Rd. History as per North Sydney Council's 'Aboriginal North Sydney' reading: "In 1790, Phillip made one of the first records of Aboriginal naming in the north Sydney area, referring to the district on the 'north west part of this harbour' as 'Cammerra' with its 'chief' named 'Cammerragal' (Historical Records of NSW, Vol.1 p.309.) Phillip did not understand clan structure when writing this, as a singular chief was not typically found in Aboriginal groups. One of his senior officers, John Hunter, wrote that Camme-or-gal was 'a great warrior' of whom the British had 'heard much' and who 'lives in the interior part of the country'. He followed that with an apparently unrelated reference to the 'tribe of Cammera' from 'the north side of Port Jackson'. Cammera, therefore, seems to be the name for present-day North Sydney. A painting of a man called Cammeragal was created in the first years of colonisation but this individual does not appear in the record at any other time raising questions about the accuracy of the account. If there was a single dominant warrior figure for the north shore one might expect he would be regularly involved in interactions with the newcomers."	YES - OTHER
187	Jinky Mactal 1 Penkivil St WILLOUGHBY	Change is good.	YES - OTHER