Transport for NSW



Fact Sheet - Bridge naming process

Newell Highway Upgrade – New Dubbo Bridge

March 2025







Transport for NSW acknowledges the Wiradjuri people as the Traditional Custodians of the lands on which we work and pays respect to Elders past and present.

The New Dubbo Bridge project is jointly funded by the Australian and NSW Governments. Transport for NSW, in partnership with Dubbo Regional Council and the Dubbo community, is progressing plans to name the New Dubbo Bridge.

Naming major bridges provides a useful navigational reference for motorists and allows the community to recognise and celebrate cultural, historical and social connections in the region.

Transport and Council roles

Transport for NSW (Transport) and Dubbo Regional Council (Council) will have distinct roles in the bridge naming process:

- Transport will undertake community consultation and prepare a comprehensive consultation report for Council's consideration.
- Council will review the consultation report, endorse a proposed name for the bridge, and then recommend that bridge name to Transport.
- Transport will approve the name recommended by Council provided that it has community support, is consistent with the NSW Geographical Names Board naming guidelines, and complies with Transport's signage requirements.

Community consultation

At the Ordinary Council meeting held on Thursday 23 November 2023, Council resolved:

- That Council's preferred name for the new Dubbo Bridge shall be a First Nations name relevant to the location and/or function of the bridge such as a crossing place on a river.
- That this resolution of Council be the focus of the community consultation undertaken by Transport for NSW.

Transport will carry out the community consultation in two phases.

- Asking members of the local First Nations community to suggest appropriate Wiradjuri names for the bridge to take forward for further consideration.
- Inviting the wider community to provide feedback on the Wiradjuri names shortlisted by the local First Nations community and/or make other suggestions.

Suggestions other than First Nations names can be provided during the wider community consultation (phase two). All suggestions should meet the naming criteria in the NSW Geographical Names Board (GNB) <u>Guidelines for the determination of place names</u> (2018) fact sheet.

Transport will ask representatives from the local First Nations community to assess the appropriateness of any further First Nations names suggested during the wider community consultation.

All naming suggestions received and a summary of the feedback from the First Nations (phase one) and wider community (phase two) consultation including preferred names will be collated into the consultation report Transport prepares for Council's consideration.

It is Transport's position that Council, as elected representatives of the community they serve, is best placed to recommend a suitable name from the suggestions received during community consultation.

Steps in naming the New Dubbo Bridge

- **Step 1:** Transport for NSW will engage with the local First Nations community to seek suggestions of appropriate First Nations (Wiradjuri) names for the New Dubbo Bridge (phase one consultation).
- **Step 2:** A panel of representatives from the local First Nations community will determine a shortlist of Wiradjuri names through a fair and transparent assessment process.
- Step 3:



Transport will invite the wider community to provide feedback on the Wiradjuri names shortlisted by the local First Nations community and/or make other suggestions, which can include suggestions other than First Nations names (phase two consultation).

- **Step 4:** Transport will ask representatives from the local First Nations community to assess any further First Nations names suggested during the wider community consultation.
- **Step 5:** Transport will collate all bridge name suggestions and a summary of the feedback from the First Nations (phase one) and wider community (phase two) consultation including preferred names into a consultation report for Dubbo Regional Council's consideration.
- **Step 6:** Council will review the consultation report, endorse a proposed name for the bridge, and then recommend that bridge name to Transport.
- Step 7: Transport will approve the name recommended by Council provided that it has community support, is consistent with the NSW Geographical Names Board naming guidelines, and complies with Transport's signage requirements.
- Step 8: The approved bridge name will be jointly announced.

Further information

Our Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) document has further information about the bridge naming process. Please reach out to the project team if you have any questions that are not covered in the FAQs. The FAQs are available on our website at nswroads.work/ndb

We will keep you updated on the progress of the naming process for the New Dubbo Bridge through our community updates, eNewsletters and website. We look forward to working collaboratively with Council and the community in naming this significant infrastructure asset in Dubbo.

Contact us



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