
Item:	D2
Subject:	Bucketts Way, Road Re-Naming
Index:	Naming & Dedication of Public Roads, Renaming Roads
Author:	Paula Sciacca – Transport Assets Section

SUMMARY OF REPORT:

It was proposed at Council's meeting held 14 December 2004 to seek support from Gloucester Shire Council and Port Stephens Council to re-name the "Bucketts Way" to "Thunderbolts Way" from the point where it intersects with the Pacific Highway through to the current commencement point of Thunderbolts Way.

SUMMARY OF RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended that Council not proceed with the proposal to re-name the "Bucketts Way" to "Thunderbolts Way".

FINANCIAL/RESOURCE IMPLICATION:

The cost of advertising, gazettal, signage etc. would be of the order of \$2,000.

POLICY IMPLICATIONS:

The Great Lakes Council Street/Road Naming Policy is attached as Annexure A.

Particular reference is made to "Item 5: Requirements" of the Street/Road Naming Policy, and three issues are highlighted as follows:

The road name "Thunderbolts Way" is in direct conflict with Item 5.5 of Council's Street/Road Naming Policy which states that "the proposed name(s) should have a maximum length of nine letters (excluding the suffix)."

Item 5.9 states that "naming proposals should represent the values of the community and be mindful of future generations". It could be viewed by members of the community, as it is in the Media Release from John Turner MP, that naming a road after a "criminal" is perhaps not a representation of the values that communities in the road's vicinity hold.

However, Item 5.7 states that "where appropriate, name continuity shall be maintained for streets and roads in the vicinity of and crossing boundaries between adjoining Council areas". Therefore re-naming "Bucketts Way" to "Thunderbolts Way" would maintain continuity between the Great Lakes, Gloucester Shire and Port Stephens Council areas.

LEGAL IMPLICATIONS: Nil

LIST OF ANNEXURES:

"A" – Great Lakes Council Street/Road Naming Policy.

"B" – Minute No. 271 of Great Lakes Council Ordinary Meeting held 14 December 2005.

"C" – Letter from Gloucester Shire Council dated 21 February 2005.

"D" – E-mail from Port Stephens Council dated 17 May 2005.

“E” – Media Release from The Nationals, John Turner MP, Member for Myall Lakes.

BACKGROUND/INFORMATION

Council at its meeting held 14 December, 2004 resolved (Min No. 271) to:

“...seek support from both Port Stephens and Gloucester Shire Councils to re-name the “Bucketts Way” to “Thunderbolts Way” from the point where it intersects with the Pacific Highway (at 12 Mile in Port Stephens Council area) through to the current commencement point of Thunderbolts Way at Gloucester and that if such support is forthcoming, action be commenced to proceed with the re-naming process (including appropriate advertising etc).”(Annexure B).

A letter was sent to Port Stephens and Gloucester Shire Councils on 18 January 2005 requesting comments on the proposal.

The proposal was considered at Gloucester Shire Council meeting on 16 February 2005, where Council reaffirmed its previous resolution not to support the name change (Annexure C).

Port Stephens Council advised that the proposal was not considered at their Council meeting, but initial investigations by staff show no opposition to the re-naming proposal, but suggested that the issue be advertised for public comment. They further advised that a formal resolution would be put to Port Stephens Council following public comment and report by Great Lakes Council on any submissions received (Annexure D).

Objection to the proposal has been received via a Media Release from Mr John Turner MP, Member for Myall Lakes (Annexure E). According to the media release, “Thunderbolts Way” derives its name from Captain Thunderbolt from Barrington who was a bushranger and a criminal. It suggests that instead of glorifying a criminal, the road should have been named “Carsons Way” in honour of the pioneering family who opened up the area through which the road runs. The intention of the renaming was to link with the existing Thunderbolts Way so this suggestion has not been considered further.

IMPLICATIONS

Great Lakes, Port Stephens and Gloucester Shire Council's number rural properties according to the Australian/New Zealand Standard 4819:2003. The rural property address is a number based on the distance of the property's access point from the start of the public road that leads to the property.

In effect, this means that if the re-naming of the “Bucketts Way” were to be approved, it will have the following impact on property owners:

1. All property owners along what is currently named the “Bucketts Way”, between the point where it intersects with the Pacific Highway through to the current commencement point of “Thunderbolts Way”, would be required to change their property addresses to reflect the new road name.
2. All property owners along the remaining section of the “Bucketts Way” would be required to change their rural property address as the distance of the road would change due to the re-naming.

3. All property owners along what is currently named “Thunderbolts Way”, in the Gloucester Shire, would be required to change their rural property address, as the distance of “Thunderbolts Way” would change as a result of the renaming.

The impact of requiring residents to change their rural property addresses involves, but is not limited to:

1. Great Lakes, Port Stephens and Gloucester Shire Councils updating all property systems databases to reflect the changes to rural property addresses.
2. Notification to all effected property owners in Great Lakes, Port Stephens and Gloucester Shire Councils of the change to their property details.
3. Notification to service providers and authorities such as Country Energy and police in Great Lakes, Port Stephens and Gloucester Shire Councils of the change to property details.
4. Effected property owners notifying all authorities and services that utilise their address as their postal address of this change, as well as with such things as licence and banking key-card replacement.
5. Effected property owners who run businesses from their properties would also incur a great expense due to the change in their rural property address.

It is evident that the impact on residents and businesses having to change their address is not a simple or inexpensive process.

Due to the above implications for property owners and residents, it is foreseen that there could be objections from the public to renaming the “Bucketts Way” to “Thunderbolts Way”.

In order to avoid this outcome, consideration could be given to a Tourist Route called Thunderbolts Way. However, this may lead to confusion with the Bucketts Way, and with other names, such as through Stroud township, where a third name already exists.

RECOMMENDATION: DIRECTOR ENGINEERING SERVICES

It is recommended that Council not proceed with the proposal to re-name the “Bucketts Way” to “Thunderbolts Way”.

ANNEXURE A

POLICY STREET/ROAD NAMING

1. Objective

- 1.1 To co-ordinate the process whereby new streets and roads are named and existing streets and roads are renamed. To establish standardised procedures for the naming of new streets and roads and the renaming of existing streets and roads. Establish the guidelines for the naming of streets and roads within the GLC area and give applicants submitting road name proposals a clear understanding of Council's requirements.

2. Scope

- 2.2 This policy relates to the naming of new streets and roads, as well as, the renaming of existing streets and roads, that fall within the legislated jurisdiction of the Great Lakes Council administration. It specifically relates to the specific requirements of the Geographical Names Board of New South Wales in accordance with Council's obligations, as a road authority, under the *Roads Act 1993* and the *Roads (General) Regulation 2000*.

3. Specific Objectives

- 3.1 To establish criteria for the naming of new local streets and roads and the renaming of existing local streets and roads that fall within the jurisdiction of the Great Lakes Council administration;
- 3.2 To regulate procedures for the naming of new streets and roads and the renaming of existing local streets and roads that fall within the jurisdiction of the Great Lakes Council administration;
- 3.3 To provide a standardised method of naming and renaming streets and roads within the Great Lakes Council area;
- 3.4 To provide guidelines for the selection and approval of new street and road names, in accordance with the requirements of Geographical Names Board of New South Wales, the *Roads Act 1993* and the *Roads (General) Regulation 2000*, within the Great Lakes Council area;
- 3.5 To ensure the naming of streets and streets and roads conforms with the Rural Addressing Scheme;

File No : R31/1
Date Adopted : 13 September 1994
Minute No : 195
Date Reviewed: 31 October 2000
Minute No: 364
Date Reviewed: 9 March 2004
Minute No. 294
Procedures Manual Ref :

Delegations Reference :
Code Ref :
Contact Division : Engineering Services

Section: Roads

10.200

ANNEXURE A



POLICY STREET/ROAD NAMING (Cont)

4. Definitions

- 4.1 *euphony*: pleasantness of sound.
- 4.2 *Street(s) and Road(s)*: is a catch all phrase to describe any public thoroughfare deemed to be under the jurisdiction of Great Lakes Council, whereby Council is empowered as the administering authority thereof, as defined in the *Roads Act 1993*.
- 4.3 *Rural Addressing Scheme*: a national initiative aimed at standardising rural addressing to ensure transparent and easily accessible processes for the benefit of; regulatory bodies, emergency services, transport and goods delivery, as well as, members of the community

5. Requirements

Proposed names of new streets and roads offered for approval shall be considered using the following guidelines:

- 5.1 All applications for the naming of streets and roads must be made in writing to the General Manager of Great Lakes Council;
- 5.2 All applications must suggest three (3) new names and state reasons to support the requested name for each suggestion. If possible, the history of the name(s) proposed should be included with the application;
- 5.3 All applications must be accompanied by an annotated GIS map and sufficient particulars to enable the road to be identified;
- 5.4 The proposed name(s) should meet the *Guidelines for the Naming of Roads* published by the Geographical Names Board of NSW, as amended from time to time;
- 5.5 The proposed name(s) should have a maximum length of nine letters (excluding the suffix);
- 5.6 Euphony shall be considered when determining appropriateness of proposed name(s);
- 5.7 Where appropriate, name continuity shall be maintained for streets and roads in the vicinity of and crossing boundaries between adjoining Council areas;
- 5.8 The proposed name(s) should be appropriate for the physical environment, historical and/or cultural character of the subject area;
- 5.9 Naming proposals should represent the values of the community and be mindful of future generations.

6. Basic Conditions for Approval

All names of new streets and roads are to be judged for appropriateness according to the criteria below. These criteria are intended as a guideline for the reviewing body. Proposed street and road name(s) or change of street and road name(s) shall:

- 6.1 comply with the aforementioned requirements;
- 6.2 reflect any relevant street naming theme adopted by Council for the area;

ANNEXURE A

POLICY STREET/ROAD NAMING (Cont)

- 6.3 maintain continuity of street and road names in the vicinity, if no themes have been adopted;
- 6.4 be unique within the Great Lakes Council area and, where possible, not duplicate names in proximity to neighbouring Council areas;
- 6.5 have an appropriate suffix for the road type of the subject street/road;
- 6.6 be deemed inappropriate if they are offensive or likely to give offence.
- 7. Policy Details**
- 7.1 Development approval is required for all subdivisions and construction of streets and roads, through Council's Planning Division;
- 7.2 Any person may apply in writing to the General Manager of Great Lakes Council to name a new road or rename an existing road in accordance with the provisions described herein;
- 7.3 Any person may make a written submission regarding a proposed road name or change to a road name in accordance with the specifications given in the notice of such proposal;
- 7.4 The selection and approval process for the naming of roads, within the Great Lakes Council area, shall comply with the requirements of Geographical Names Board of New South Wales, as described in their publications, the *Roads Act 1993* and the *Roads (General) Regulation 2000*, as amended from time to time;
- 7.5 There is no fee payable, however, any additional disbursements will be charged to the applicant, including, but not limited to, advertising costs;
- 7.6 The authority to approve road names is delegated through the General Manager to the Director of Engineering Services;
- 7.7 Where the subject street or road is highly significant, or if considerable difficulty in selection of new road name or name change is encountered, a Council Resolution shall be sought;
- 7.8 Approved Street names shall be shown in the final subdivision release;
- 7.9 Names must be approved prior to use;
- 7.10 New names will be approved in accordance with the provisions described herein;
- 7.11 All approved names shall be gazetted in the *NSW Government Gazette* in accordance with the GLC Naming of Roads Procedure.
- 7.12 Council retains the right to change or modify names of new or existing streets and roads, that fall within the jurisdiction of the GLC administration, if and when it is deemed necessary to do so;
- 7.13 The quality of timelessness will be considered in the significance of the proposed name.

ANNEXURE B

NOTICE OF MOTION – Bucketts Way, Road Re-Naming

271

RESOLVED that Council seek support from both Port Stephens and Gloucester Shire Councils to re-name the “Bucketts Way” to “Thunderbolts Way” from the point where it intersects with the Pacific Highway (at 12 Mile in Port Stephens Council area) through to the current commencement point of Thunderbolts Way at Gloucester and that if such support is forthcoming, action be commenced to proceed with the re-naming process (including appropriate advertising etc).

(Hutchinson/Gill)

ANNEXURE C

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GLOUCESTER SHIRE COUNCIL

ABN: 39 690 038 002

Our Reference File: R2/200 Folio: 21795
Enquiries: Gil Gendron

GREAT LAKES COUNCIL

21 February 2005

23 FEB 2005

RECEIVED RECORDS

89 King Street – PO Box 11
GLOUCESTER NSW 2422

Telephone (02) 65 58 1601
Facsimile (02) 65 58 2343

The General Manager
Great Lakes Council
PO Box 450
FORSTER NSW 2428

Email: council@gloucester.nsw.gov.au
www.gloucester.nsw.gov.au

Attention: Ms Paula Sciacca
The Administrative Support Officer - Transport Assets

Dear Madam

RENAMING OF BUCKETTS WAY TO THUNDERBOLTS WAY

I acknowledge your letter of 18 January 2005 requesting Gloucester Shire Council's support for a name change of the Bucketts Way to Thunderbolts Way from the Pacific Highway through to Thunderbolts Way at Gloucester.

Please be advise that this matter was considered by Council again, at its meeting on the 16 February 2005.

At that meeting Council reaffirmed its previous resolution, not to support the name change.

Should you require any further information do not hesitate to contact Council's Director of Technical Services, Mr Gil Gendron.

Yours faithfully

NS McLeod
General Manager
gg/lv

ANNEXURE D

Paula Sciacca

From: Cliff Johnson [cliff.johnson@portstephens.nsw.gov.au]
Sent: Tuesday, 17 May 2005 4:11 PM
To: Paula Sciacca
Subject: (DWS Doc No 777241) RE: Naming - Thunderbolts Way

Thanks Paula, I know I was supposed to send it to you a couple of weeks ago - sorry.

Port Stephens Council through staff initial investigations has not come up with any opposition to the proposal and suggests the issue should be advertised for public comment. I authorise you to advertise within this Council area and report on any comments raised as a result of the advertising. A formal resolution will be put to Council after the advertising and your report on any submissions received. Regards
Cliff Johnson - Principal Property Advisor.

-----Original Message-----

From: Paula Sciacca [mailto:Paula.Sciacca@greatlakes.nsw.gov.au]
Sent: Tuesday, 17 May 2005 3:16 PM
To: Cliff Johnson
Subject: Naming - Thunderbolts Way

Cliff

Would you be able to forward me Port Stephens Council response on this issue? We were hoping to send it to Council on 24 May which means I need to do the report by Friday.

Regards

Paula Sciacca
Administrative Assistant
Engineering Department
Great Lakes Council
Tel: 6591 7235
Fax: 6591 7248

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ANNEXURE E

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THE NATIONALS

John Turner MP
MEMBER FOR MYALL LAKES

MEDIA RELEASE

Hands Off Bucketts Way Name!

Why are some Councils, who complain about law and order issues, wanting to commemorate a significant criminal, asks The Nationals Member for Myall Lakes, John Turner.

Mr Turner said the push by some councils and councillors to rename the Bucketts Way to Thunderbolts Way should not proceed.

"It shouldn't proceed for two reasons. The first is that the Bucketts Way is the proper, correct and historical name for the road (named after the picturesque chain of hills which resembles the shape of an upturned bucket) starting at 'the twelve mile' intersection with the Pacific Highway and passing through the beautiful areas of Stroud, Wards River, Stratford, Gloucester and Krumbach to Taree.

"Secondly and more importantly Captain Thunderbolt, after whom Thunderbolts Way is named and which was from Barrington, just outside Gloucester to Uralla through Nowendoc and Walcha was a serious criminal", said Mr Turner.

"Thunderbolt held up people at gun point, no doubt striking terror into them.

"He stole people's money and possessions and struck fear into whole communities", said Mr Turner.

"Indeed the former citizens of some of the councils that now want to honour Thunderbolt would have been caught up in his war of terror.

"No matter how much people want to try and glorify criminals such as Thunderbolt or Ned Kelly, they were just that, criminals.

"I have always opposed the naming of Thunderbolts Way after a criminal.

"Indeed those who were at the opening of the road would have noticed that in my speech I never uttered the word Thunderbolt and I only do so now to express my concern about the proposal to rename the Bucketts Way", said Mr Turner.

"For those who will say Thunderbolt was misunderstood, was a victim of society or any other excuse, equate that to the criminals of today and see if you feel comfortable in renaming a street in your town say the "Arthur Neddy Smith" Street, or such like!

"The Thunderbolts Way should have been called Carsons Way in honour of the pioneering family who opened up the area through which the road runs.

"To those councils that want to rename the Bucketts Way, I say hands off", said Mr Turner.

DATED 7 Jan 2005

For further information contact John Turner MP: Phone: 6555 4099 Mobile: 0427 655 321
Suite 6, 1st Floor 'Bridgepoint' 1-5 Manning Street, Tuncurry NSW 2428
or PO Box 272, Tuncurry NSW 2428

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