

Submission ID: O-0741
Date Received: 9/4/26, 11:16 pm
Name: Jason Fernandez
Submission Topic: Electorate Names
Electoral District: Cleveland (formerly Oodgeroo); Indooroopilly (formerly Maiwar)

Submission:

I'm a youth worker, Social Work student, and volunteer. I work with many Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander young people as a Youth Worker, and name dismayed to see the lack of cultural connection that we can provide in our limited capacities as youth workers, and visible signs of cultural significance in our public institutions that we can lean on to support their respect and connection to land and the long and significant histories of the places where we live. I volunteer in Maiwar, at a clothing charity based in the Maiwar electorate, as well as at a community advocacy organisation based there in Taringa, and I've had the privilege to meet many people who live in the electorate. I also volunteer at a Street kitchen in Musgrave Park in the South Brisbane Electorate. I am completely opposed to the proposed loss of the change of the electorate name of Maiwar to Indooroopilly. The Maiwar River isn't recognised, and we should be honouring it instead of losing it. The "Brown Snake" river is central to all of us who live here, whether it's crossing the river from the Southside to get to the CBD or the Valley or to visit my boardgame friends in Taringa. I have run alongside the river when I lived in Kangaroo Point for my 5k runs, I have walked on the walkway on dates, and I've spent New Year's Eve on the riverside. The Maiwar name is important, and shamefully is one of the few formal vestiges of recognising the long history of river that is central to so many designs and representations of Meanjin, or so-called Brisbane. Similarly, I oppose all name changes that would lose Indigenous names, and I recommend that those names should be kept. Thank you for the opportunity to make this submission.