

Submission ID: O-0452
Date Received: 28/3/26, 12:36 pm
Name: Pasquale Heredia
Submission Topic: Electorate Names
Electoral District: Springfield (New)

Submission:

See below

Submission Attachments

Email - Pasquale Heredia - Queensland Redistribution Commission - Proposed Name for the New Electorate — Woogaroo.pdf

From: [Pasquale Heredia](#)
To: [QRC Submissions](#)
Subject: Queensland Redistribution Commission - Proposed Name for the New Electorate — Woogaroo
Date: Saturday, 28 March 2026 12:36:12 PM

You don't often get email from [REDACTED] [Learn why this is important](#)

Dear QRC,

I write to submit a formal recommendation that the proposed electorate currently designated as Springfield be named Woogaroo. This submission is made in accordance with the Commission's stated naming principles: geographic clarity, landscape identity, voter recognition, and meaningful connection to place. This advances the name Woogaroo as the designation most fully consistent with those principles.

While the name Springfield accurately identifies a single suburb within the proposed boundary, it does not reflect the broader geographic, ecological, cultural, or historical character of the district as a whole. The name Woogaroo, by contrast, carries significance across all of these dimensions and commands established recognition throughout the communities the electorate will serve.

1. Geographic Centrality and Landscape Identity

The proposed electorate encompasses a diverse range of residential communities, including Springfield, Springfield Lakes, Brookwater, Augustine Heights, Bellbird Park, and Redbank Plains. At the spatial and conceptual heart of this area lies Woogaroo Forest, a substantial remnant bushland that serves as a defining feature of the region's physical landscape.

The broader Woogaroo landscape is further characterised by a series of interconnected geographic features that have shaped both the natural and human history of the district:

- Contiguous bushland corridors connecting remnant vegetation across the region
- Prominent ridgelines that form natural topographic boundaries
- The north-south alignment of Woogaroo Creek, a watercourse that has historically structured both Indigenous use of Country and the pattern of subsequent European settlement and suburban development

These landscape features are well recognised by residents and constitute a coherent geographic identity that the name Woogaroo accurately captures. The Commission's emphasis on names that clearly identify a district's location and physical character is well served by this designation.

2. Established Community Recognition

The name Woogaroo is not a recent coinage or a constructed administrative label. It is organically embedded in the civic, educational, sporting, and youth life of the communities within the proposed

electorate. The following institutions demonstrate the depth and breadth of its current usage:

- Woogaroo Creek State School (Augustine Heights)
- Woogaroo Swimming Club
- The Woogaroo Field, Richardson Park — home ground of the Goodna Eagles Rugby League Club
- Woogaroo District Scout Group, drawing membership from Goodna, Springfield, Redbank Plains, and Camira
- The Woogaroo District Scout Badge, worn by young people across the region

The collective reach of these organisations, spanning schools, sport, and youth development, demonstrates that Woogaroo already functions as a unifying name for the district. Adopting it as the electorate name would reinforce, rather than impose, an identity that residents already share.

3. Historical Primacy

Woogaroo is among the oldest documented place names in the region, predating the establishment of Springfield by more than a century. Its historical record spans cartography, institutional nomenclature, agricultural history, and early colonial infrastructure:

- The area now known as Goodna appears as Woogaroo on an 1840 survey map prepared by Robert Dixon
- The Woogaroo Lunatic Asylum, later Goodna Asylum, operated under this name from the 1860s
- Woogaroo Station, a pastoral property, was established in 1841
- A quarry operated by Patrick Logan in 1826 was designated the Woogaroo quarry
- Woogaroo Creek was referenced as a significant geographic feature in Melbourne newspaper coverage of the 1893 floods, indicating its recognised status beyond the immediate locality

This documentary record establishes Woogaroo as a foundational geographic reference, one with deep roots in the region's history and a continuous presence in its recorded landscape.

4. Ecological and Scientific Heritage

The Woogaroo Scrub holds a distinguished place in the scientific history of South East Queensland. During the latter decades of the nineteenth century, it was a recognised destination for botanists and naturalists, who travelled specifically to the Goodna locality to examine its distinctive rainforest ecosystems.

A particularly significant expedition was conducted on 24 May 1889, led by eminent Queensland botanists F.M. Bailey and J.M. Simmonds. The species recorded during that excursion along the Woogaroo and Opossum Creek corridors retain scientific relevance today: a number of the plant communities documented at that time persist in the landscape, representing an exceptional instance of ecological continuity spanning nearly one hundred and forty years.

The name Woogaroo thus carries not merely historical but scientific weight, a recognition that this landscape has been the subject of serious scholarly inquiry and that its ecological integrity warrants acknowledgement in the name of the electorate it anchors.

5. Indigenous Cultural Significance

The name Woogaroo derives from the Yuggera language, specifically the Ugarapul dialect, which is the language of the Traditional Owners of this Country. Recorded meanings include references to shade and coolness, to a waterhole or whirlpool, and to descriptive qualities associated with Woogaroo Creek itself.

The retention of Indigenous place names in public nomenclature is consistent with contemporary best practice in recognition of Country and the longstanding custodianship of First Nations peoples. Naming the electorate Woogaroo would constitute a meaningful acknowledgement of the Yuggera and Ugarapul peoples' enduring connection to this landscape, a connection that substantially predates European settlement and that continues to this day.

6. Correspondence with the Commission's Naming Principles

The Commission has articulated that electorate names should clearly identify or suggest the district's location, enhance voter recognition, reflect meaningful geographic or cultural features, and avoid designations that represent only a limited portion of the electorate. Assessed against each of these criteria, Woogaroo is demonstrably the stronger candidate:

- Geographic identification: Woogaroo Forest and Woogaroo Creek occupy a central position within the proposed boundary, anchoring the landscape in a manner that Springfield — as a single suburb — does not
- Voter recognition: Woogaroo is already in active use across educational, sporting, and community organisations serving the full electorate
- Cultural and geographic meaning: the name carries Indigenous, ecological, historical, and scientific resonances that are specific to this landscape
- Representativeness: unlike Springfield, which refers to a single suburb, Woogaroo has historically served as a name for the broader district

Conclusion

On the grounds of geographic accuracy, cultural integrity, historical depth, scientific heritage, and strong existing community recognition, I respectfully submit that Woogaroo is the most appropriate, meaningful, and principled name for the proposed electorate.

The name Springfield designates one part of the district. The name Woogaroo belongs to all of it.

I respectfully commend the name Woogaroo to the Queensland

Redistribution Commission for adoption.

Kind regards,

Pasquale Heredia

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]