

SUBMISSION TO THE ENVIRONMENT, PARKS AND SUSTAINABILITY COMMITTEE

1. **FILE NUMBER**

CA20/862981

2. **TITLE**

Petition proposing the creation of a memorial grove in Anzac Park, Toowong, to be known as the 'National Defence Chaplains' Memorial Grove.'

3. **ISSUE/PURPOSE**

To respond to a petition proposing the creation of a memorial grove in Anzac Park, Toowong, to be known as the 'National Defence Chaplains' Memorial Grove.'

4. **PROPONENT**

Andrea Kenafake, Divisional Manager, City Planning and Sustainability

5. **SUBMISSION PREPARED BY**

Vicki Grieshaber, Senior Program Officer Urban Forest, Parks and Natural Resources, Natural Environment, Water and Sustainability, City Planning and Sustainability

6. **FOR RECOMMENDATION TO COUNCIL**

For recommendation to Council

7. **RECOMMENDATION**

It is recommended that the information in this submission be noted and the draft response, as set out in Attachment A, be sent to the head petitioner.



**Andrea Kenafake
DIVISIONAL MANAGER
CITY PLANNING AND
SUSTAINABILITY**



**Councillor Fiona Cunningham
CHAIR
ENVIRONMENT, PARKS AND
SUSTAINABILITY COMMITTEE**

8. **BACKGROUND**

A petition containing 100 signatures was presented to Council at its meeting of 11 August 2020, by Councillor James Mackay, Councillor for Walter Taylor Ward, proposing the creation of a memorial grove in Anzac Park, Toowong, to be known as the 'National Defence Chaplains' Memorial Grove.'

Anzac Park has a long history of association with World War I (WWI) defence personnel. Avenues of Honour were planted parallel to Wool Street in the 1920s to remember those who gave their life for our freedom. Anzac Park has a newly dedicated Avenue of Honour which comprises the following.

- Illawarra flame trees (*Brachychiton acerifolius*) around the ring road to commemorate the lives lost in the wars that Australians and Queenslanders have fought in. Illawarra flame trees were chosen because of their red flowers that bloom during November, which is symbolic timing for Remembrance Day.
- A grove of Lemon scented myrtle (*Backhousia citriodora*) planted as a living tribute to nine women nurses who died during WWI, or shortly thereafter, and whose deaths were war related.
- A Norfolk Island pine (*Araucaria heterophylla*) planted in remembrance of the Unknown Soldier.
- A Lone Pine (*Pinus halepensis*) planted on the hill. This tree is descended from the original tree stock of the last remaining pine tree from Lone Pine Ridge at Gallipoli and was brought to Australia in 1915. In 2019, the tree was transported from Canberra where Yarralumla Nursery grows and distributes the Lone Pine seedlings on behalf of the Australian War Memorial.

The Anzac Park Avenue of Honour was re-dedicated at a service held on 31 October 2019, officiated by the Lord Mayor, Councillor Adrian Schrinner.

Given the strong connection with WWI and remembrance of Australian and Queensland war efforts at Anzac Park, Council has agreed to establish the National Defence Chaplains' Memorial Grove and will begin preliminary work on a design that will complement the original avenues as well as these more recent plantings.

It is recommended that the information in this submission be noted and the draft response, as set out in Attachment A, be sent to the head petitioner.

9. **FUNDING**

Funding for the National Defence Chaplains' Memorial Grove is available in Service 3.3.2.1 – Managing Trees on Public Land.

10. **CONSULTATION**

Councillor James Mackay, Councillor for Walter Taylor Ward, has been consulted and supports the recommendation.

11. **CUSTOMER IMPACT**

Establishing the National Defence Chaplains' Memorial Grove will complement the existing memorials in Anzac Park, Toowong, and consolidate the park's importance for remembrance and reflection, thereby providing a positive customer impact.

12. **OPTIONS**

Option 1 – Approve the recommendation

Option 2 – Do not approve the recommendation

(Option 1 is the preferred option)

NB: If the officer's recommendation is not followed, then the reasons for departure from that recommendation should be recorded here.

Attachment A
Draft Response

Petition Reference: CA20/862981

Thank you for your petition proposing the creation of a memorial grove in Anzac Park, Toowong, to be known as the 'National Defence Chaplains' Memorial Grove.'

Anzac Park, Toowong, has a long history of association with World War I (WWI) defence personnel. Avenues of Honour were planted parallel to Wool Street in the 1920s to remember those who gave their life for our freedom. Anzac Park has a newly dedicated Avenue of Honour which comprises the following.

- Illawarra flame trees (*Brachychiton acerifolius*) around the ring road to commemorate the lives lost in the wars that Australians and Queenslanders have fought in. Illawarra flame trees were chosen because of their red flowers that bloom during November, which is symbolic timing for Remembrance Day.
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The Anzac Park Avenue of Honour was re-dedicated at a service held on 31 October 2019, officiated by the Lord Mayor, Councillor Adrian Schinnerer.

Given the strong connection with WWI and remembrance of Australian and Queensland war efforts at Anzac Park, Council agrees to establish The National Defence Chaplains' Memorial Grove and will begin preliminary work on a design that will complement the original avenues as well as these more recent plantings. Council looks forward to working with you to investigate a suitable location within Anzac Park and to select appropriate tree species to establish the grove.

Please let the other petitioners know of this information.

Should you wish to discuss this matter further, please contact Ms Vicki Grieshaber, Senior Program Officer Urban Forest, Parks and Natural Resources, Natural Environment, Water and Sustainability, City Planning and Sustainability, on (07) 3403 6549.

Thank you for raising this matter.