



Ararat Rural City

Community Consultation Report: Road Naming Proposal

The proposal to formally name an unnamed lane located between George Road and Banfield Street, running parallel to Dawson and High Street, Ararat, was presented to the community for consultation and public submissions. Submissions were invited in a Yes/No format via the Engage Ararat platform, by post, or by email between 1 July 2026 and 30 July 2026.

A total of 104 submissions were received during the consultation period. These submissions are provided in the table below.

We thank all submitters for their feedback and suggestions.

Submissions for the proposed naming of Oak Lane, Ararat

Engage Ararat Results:

YES - 88

NO - 12

Notification of Road
Name Proposal -
Oak Lane
Do you support naming
the lane "Oak Lane"
YES

From

, Ararat
3377

re: Naming of Oak Lane

Members of the Ararat Genealogical Society wish to recommend the name of Mow Fung for the name of the laneway for the following reasons:-

1. Mow Fung was held in high regard in the Ararat community since 1868.
His biography is listed in the book "Ararat - 1857-2007" by J & D Barry. Pg. 16-17
Indeed, his photo is on the front cover of this book.
2. The name has a strong connection to the local area and vicinity to Gum San.
3. Chinese were mining in this area since 1857.
4. Ararat purports to have been "founded by the Chinese".
4. Ararat has a dedicated Museum to the Chinese miners but no thoroughfare has ever been named in honour of a Chinese person.
5. We think that the time has come for the Council to address this anomaly and if this name is not used in this instance, Council could put the name in a Name Bank for consideration when another street needs naming.

Oak Lane to be called Mow Fung Lane.

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Hi there,

We are Ararat property owners and received the letter about the road naming proposal for the laneway behind our house in Dawson St, with the suggestion of Oak Lane put forward by some members of the community. We accessed the Engage Ararat webpage and found one could only vote Yes or No to that one name without any means of suggesting an alternative.

We would like to support the suggestion of the Ararat Genealogical Society that the laneway be named after Mow Fung, a prominent member of the Chinese community of early Ararat. The rural city makes much of the Chinese connection in its tourist literature, has a sizable and highly regarded museum illustrating this history in the Gum San Chinese Heritage Centre, yet has no public thoroughfare named in honour of a Chinese person.

We would therefore prefer the name Mow Fung Lane to the suggested Oak Lane, especially as three large Oak trees were recently removed from a property backing on to the lane to clear the land for development. Oak Lane seems a little bit ironic after such an act.