



Name that Creek- Hendersonville, NC

August 1, 2022

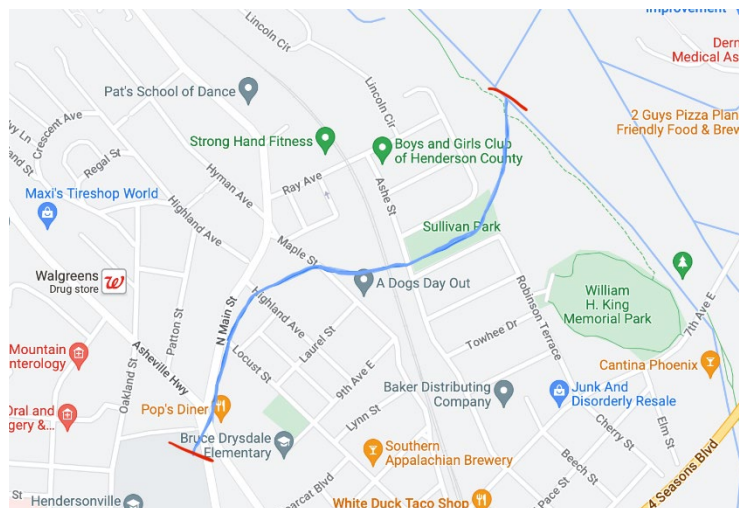
RiverLink is a non-profit organization focused on the environmental and economic vitality of the French Broad River watershed. Name that Creek is a RiverLink initiative in which communities submit name suggestions for unnamed creeks and vote for an official name. The goal of the program is foster connection and a sense of shared stewardship of our local waterways.

In July 2022, RiverLink staff worked with Hendersonville residents to select the name 'Brooklyn Creek' for an unnamed stream that flows through Sullivan Park and into Mud Creek. Once a name is chosen by residents' popular vote, the next step is to obtain formal approval by a local government. In this case, that is the City of Hendersonville City Council. RiverLink then submits an application to the USGS Board of Geographical Names (USGS-BN). If approved by the USGS-BGN, the creek name will appear on official USGS maps.

See below for details on the Name that Creek campaign.

RiverLink staff distributed fliers around neighborhoods adjacent to the stream asking for proposed names. Local residents submitted two names: Brooklyn Creek and Cold Springs Creek. Then, a poll was created where residents could vote for their favorite name online (Google Doc), by mail, or phone. Residents were notified about the poll via email and fliers were posted around the neighborhoods and downtown Hendersonville businesses. The winning name was Brooklyn Creek with 66.7% of the vote.

Figure 1. Location of unnamed stream in dark blue.



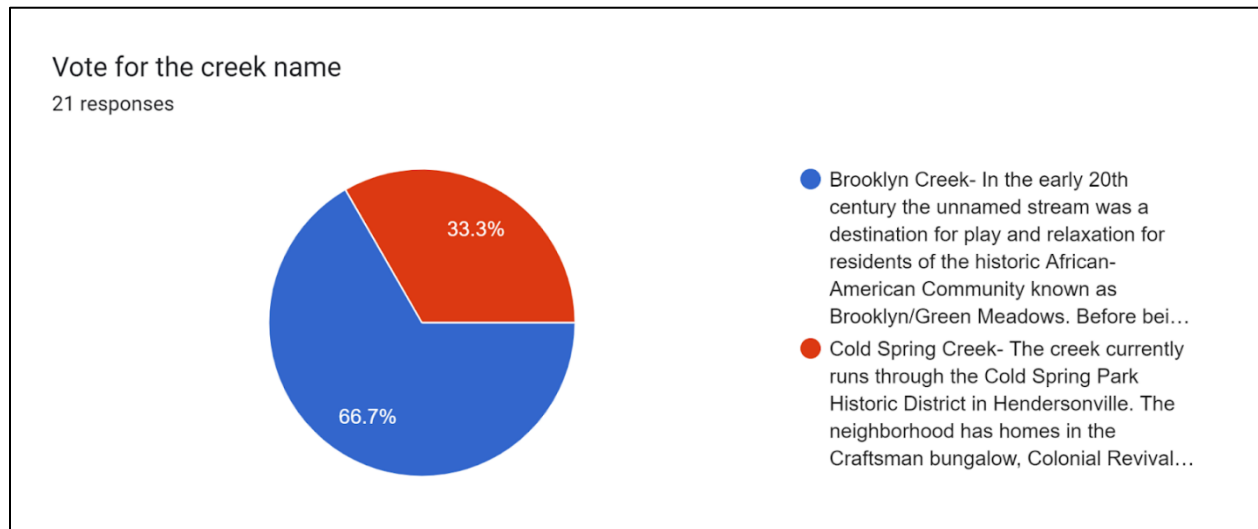


Names Suggested by Residents

1) Brooklyn Creek- In the early 20th century the unnamed stream was a destination for play and relaxation for residents of the historic African-American community known as Brooklyn. Before being displaced by Urban Renewal in the 1970's and relocated to Green Meadows, there was a thriving connected community along the stream. By naming the stream Brooklyn Creek, the history of a displaced community and their connection to the waterway can be honored and shared.

2) Cold Spring Creek- The creek currently runs through the Cold Spring Park Historic District in Hendersonville. The neighborhood has homes in the Craftsman bungalow, Colonial Revival, and Ranch styles dating from 1910 through 1953, all of which were built within the historically platted Cold Spring Park subdivision. The area has retained much of the architectural integrity and the name aims to complement this designation.

Figure 2. Poll results.



For more info on the history of the Brooklyn neighborhood, see this Laurel of Asheville [article](#).