

NAMING OF ROADS AND COUNCIL ASSETS

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| Policy Type: | Council |
| Responsible Department: | Office of the Chief Executive Officer |
| Responsible Officer: | Chief Executive Officer |
| Related Policies and Procedures | Community engagement and public consultation policy |
| Date Adopted: | 25 October 2010, C758/10 |
| Last Council review: | 26 September 2016, C606/16 |
| Next review date: | September 2019 |
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1. POLICY STATEMENT

A Council has the power under section 219 of the Local Government Act 1999 to assign a name to, or change the name of:

- a public road; and
- a private road; and
- a public place.

Council *must* assign a name to a public road created by land division.

All roads that can be used as part of an address for an address site will be assigned a name.

Council also may assign a name to Council assets, including infrastructure or facilities.

A Council resolution is required to assign or change the name of a public or private road, public place, or Council assets.

2. COMMUNITY GOAL

Goal 2.3; Cultural and artistic diversity.

Goal 5.3; Good governance and legislative framework.

3. POLICY OBJECTIVES

The objective of this policy is to provide a framework for selecting names for roads, laneways, walkways, Council owned or managed facilities such as buildings, parks, reserves, and other physical structures throughout the City of Unley.

4. PRINCIPLES

The following principles apply to ensure that a name is selected which:

- Recognises the historical, social and cultural development of the City of Unley.
- Is appropriate to the location and type of facility.
- Will stand the test of time.
- The origin of each name will be clearly stated and recorded as part of the Council's historical records.
- The final decision on a name to be assigned under this policy rests with the elected body of the City of Unley.
- Council has the right to refuse any application to name a road, public place, or other Council asset.
- Only in exceptional instances will more than one memorial or road name be approved in the Council area to commemorate the same person, event, or organisation.

5. POLICY

5.1 Initiating the process for assigning or changing a name

A naming process may be initiated if:

- a request is received by the Council from an affected land owner or their agent, or a community group, or the family of an individual;
- Council resolves that a name be assigned or a change be investigated;
- Council staff determine it is in the public interest to investigate a change of name;
- Council opens or forms a road; or
- Council receives an application for a land division.

5.2 Names of Roads and Council assets

In the naming and renaming of public roads, public places or Council assets, the following policy will be observed.

Uniqueness

A road will have only one name.

A road name will be unique within an official suburb. Duplicate road names within a suburb/locality will be resolved in order to avoid confusion (eg. emergency services response).

Roads that are maintained by the Department for Planning, Transport, and Infrastructure (DPTI) will be named by DPTI. Council will consult with DPTI in relation to naming these roads.

Duplicate names and similar sounding names (e.g. Paice, Payce or Pace Road) within a suburb or locality will be avoided where possible.

If possible, duplication of names in proximity to adjacent suburb or locality will also be avoided. However, roads crossing Council boundaries should have a single and unique name.

Wherever practicable, road names will be continuous from the logical start of the road to the logical end of the road, irrespective of Council boundaries, landforms and intersecting roads.

Name Sources

Sources of names for roads, public places, or assets may include:

- Aboriginal names taken from the local Aboriginal language;
- early explorers, pioneers, and settlers;
- eminent persons, such as an individual who was or is a member of the Unley community and who has made a significant contribution to the cultural and/or political life of the community;
- local history;
- thematic names such as flora, fauna, ships etc;
- commemorative names.

Propriety

Names of living persons and commercial entities will generally be avoided.

Council will not assign the name of a serving Elected Member of Unley Council, or its Administration, or serving State or Federal politicians, to a public road, public place, or Council asset.

Names which are characterised as follows will not be used;

- Offensive or likely to give offence; or
- Incongruous - out of place.

Ease of use

Names will be reasonably easy to read, spell and pronounce in order to assist residents, ratepayers, service providers, emergency services and the travelling public.

Unduly long names and names composed of two or more words should be avoided:

- a given name will only be included with a family name where it is essential to identify an individual or where it is necessary to avoid ambiguity. The use of given names will generally be avoided.
- whilst street and cul-de-sac names should have only one word, it is recognised that some roads require a two word name because of their geographic relationship (e.g. Proof Range Road).
- roads with double destination names will be avoided (eg. Goodwood Pasadena Road).

Spelling

Where it is intended that a road have the same name as a place or feature with an approved geographical name, particular care will be taken to ensure that the correct spelling of the official place name is adopted as shown in the State Gazetteer.

Where the spelling of names has been changed by long established local usage, unless there is a particular request by the local community to retain the original name, the spelling that is sanctioned by general usage will be adopted.

Generally road or place names proposed or approved will not contain abbreviations. For example, the “Creek” in “Wallaby Creek Road” must not be abbreviated. There are, however, two exceptions; “St” will always be used in place of “Saint” and it is acceptable to use “Mt” for “Mount”.

Form

The form of names will avoid the use of the possessive “s” unless the euphony becomes harsh. (For example; use “Smith Road” rather than “Smith’s Road”. However, use “Devil’s Elbow” rather than “Devil Elbow”.)

The use of hyphens will be avoided. However, hyphens may be used when naming a road, public place, or Council asset after a person with a hyphenated name.

Acronyms will generally be avoided as their use tends to be transient and commercial in nature.

Type of Road or Public Place

Road names will include an appropriate road type suffix conforming with the following guidelines:

- The suffix chosen will be compatible with the class and type of road. Assistance to both the motorists and pedestrians is a major consideration in choosing the suffix.
- When a suffix with a geometric or geographic connotation is chosen it will generally reflect the form of the road, for example:
 - Crescent; a crescent or half moon, rejoining the road from which it starts.
- For a cul-de-sac use Place, Close, Court or a suffix of similar connotation.
- The use of a compass point prefix/suffix or an additional suffix such as “north” or “extension” will be avoided.

- Highway (HWY) will be specifically reserved for roads associated with the state arterial road network. Its use will be restricted to roads of strategic importance constructed to a high standard, and under the care and control of DPTI.

Place names will be appropriate to the type of asset (eg. park, playground, sports field).

Naming of Private Roads

Private land owners are not obliged to seek Council approval for naming their roads. However, there is a public interest in encouraging private land owners and developers to select suitable names, preferably in accordance with this policy, and to obtain Council endorsement for the name.

Where Council proposes to assign a name to a private road it will consult with the owner of the land over the proposed name and the signage requirements for the road.

5.3 Consultation

A naming proposal which is made by a nominee, relatives, or a community group, must be accompanied by relevant documentation and background research which demonstrates the merit of the proposal.

Consultation shall occur in the first instance with the nominee or relatives to ascertain their support for use of the name. The naming process will not be pursued if the nominee or relatives disapprove.

If the nominee is deceased then relatives will be contacted asking if they approve of the request. If the relatives do not give approval, the naming process will not be pursued.

Where the proposed name is of Kaurna origin, the relevant cultural group (eg. For Kaurna languages) will be consulted.

Consultation with the wider community may be undertaken if Council proposes to change the name of a road or public place. The process will be guided by Council's Community engagement and public consultation policy and any other legislative requirements.

The purpose of the consultation is to seek stakeholder feedback on the naming request. Council will not be bound by the feedback.

Consultation with adjoining Councils

If a Council decides to change the name of a public road that runs into the area of an adjoining Council, the Council will give the adjoining Council at least two months' notice of the proposed change and consider any representations made by the adjoining Council in response to the notice. [See section 219(2) of the Local Government Act 1999.]

5.4 Public Notice of Name Assignment or Change

Council will give public notice of the assigning or changing of the name of a public or private road or public place. This will be by publication in the Government Gazette and by notice in a newspaper circulating generally throughout the State, as required under section 219(4) of the Local Government Act 1999. Public notice will include the date

that the new name takes effect (see below) and notice will also be published on the Council's website www.unley.sa.gov.au

The date of effect of the new or changed name will be determined at the time of making the decision to assign the name so as to allow sufficient time for all stakeholders to make arrangements to ensure a smooth transition.

The Council's Register of Roads and Register of Community Land will be updated as soon as practicably possible.

5.5 Costs

Generally, Council will meet the costs associated with the naming of a road or facility.

5.6 Names of suburbs or electorates

Naming of suburbs is governed by the Geographical Names Act 1991 and administered by the Surveyor-General.

The Electoral Commission is responsible for naming electoral districts.

6. NAMING OF FACILITY OR INFRASTRUCTURE

Each facility, infrastructure, or public place named shall be entitled to have the background information about the name recorded upon the facility, infrastructure, or at the public place through the placement/erection of a plaque consistent with its size and location.

Such plaques will record the person's initials and surname (including post-nominals), and subject to preference, use of a single first (or preferred) name and the date of the assigning of the name. The plaque may also include the person's dates of birth and death.

Where appropriate the extent or significance of the person's or group's contribution to the community will be notated.

7. DEFINITIONS

For purposes of this policy, the definitions used for highway, private road, public road, road, and public place, local government land, park, reserve, and relative will be those in section 4 of the Local Government Act 1999.

"Council" means the Corporation of the City of Unley.

"Asset" includes infrastructure, parks, playgrounds, reserves, sports fields, and Council owned or managed land and buildings.

8. LEGISLATION / REFERENCES

- Local Government Act 1999; mandatory policy under Section 219.
- Geographical Names Act 1991.
- Development Act 1993.
- Roads (Opening and Closing) Act 1991.

9. POLICY DELEGATIONS

Full information about the sub-delegated powers and duties is contained in the Council Delegations Register.

10. ROLES/RESPONSIBILITIES

- General Manager Economic Development and Planning
- General Manager Assets and Environment
- Manager Community Development

11. AVAILABILITY

The policy is available for public inspection during normal office hours from;

Civic Centre
181 Unley Road
Unley SA 5061

A copy may be purchased for a fee as determined annually by Council.

It is also available for viewing, download and printing free of charge from the Council's website, www.unley.sa.gov.au

12. DOCUMENT HISTORY

| Date | Council/Committee/Internal | Comment |
|-----------------|----------------------------|---|
| (1.7.07) | | Was policy COU124 |
| 18 October 2010 | CSP Committee CSP367/10 | |
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