

Road Naming Policy

Policy Owner:	General Manager, Service Delivery
Policy Sponsor:	Infrastructure Committee
Approved By:	Policy Committee
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Scope

This Policy applies to:

- the naming of new or previously unnamed Public Roads;
- changing the name of an existing Public Road; and
- the naming of Private Roads.

Objectives

The objectives of this policy are to ensure that:

- Clear guidance of the criteria and process for road naming is provided to Council employees subdivision developers, Community Boards/Committees/ Groups and the general public.
- Council meets the requirements of the Local Government Act 1974.
- Communities and local iwi have input into road naming.
- Adequate consultation is undertaken with Community Boards/ Committees/ Groups.

Related Documents/Legislation

- Hamilton City Council – Infrastructure Technical Specification
- WDC Heritage Strategy
- Local Government Act 1974 – s319A
- Manual of Traffic Signs and Markings - Part 1 Section 7 Guide Signs (Design, Policy, Location)
- Road Naming Policy (2013)
- Guidelines for selection of road names

Application

This Policy applies to the following parties:

- Waikato District Council - Service Delivery Group, Consents, Planning and Strategy
- General Public
- Subdivision Developers

Definitions

Approved List A list of road names which have been pre-selected by Community Boards, Community Committees, Community Groups, Iwi and approved by the Infrastructure Committee.

Private Road Has the same meaning as private road in the Local Government Act 1974

(s315)

Private Roads are not maintained by the Council.

Public Road

Has the same meaning as road in the Local Government Act 1974 (s315)Public

Roads are maintained by the Council.

Subdivision Developer

A person, consultant or agent who is in the process of undertaking a subdivision development whereby subdivision resource consent is applicable.

The following definitions include the different types of road titles which could apply to both public and private roads:

- Avenue** wide straight roadway or street usually planted either side with trees
- Boulevard** once a promenade on the side of demolished fortifications; now applied to any street or broad main road
- Close** a small quiet residential road or street
- Court** an enclosed, uncovered area opening off a street(s)
- Crescent** a crescent shaped street
- Drive** a main connecting route in a suburb
- Esplanade** Level roadway along the seaside, lake or a river
- Glade** tree covered street or a passage between trees
- Glen** in a narrow valley
- Grove** a road lined with houses and often trees, especially in a suburban area
- Hill** applies to a feature rather than a route
- Lane** a narrow road or way between buildings, hedges, fences, etc.
- Place** an open square lined with houses in a town
- Quay** along the waterfront
- Road/Street** route of way between places
- Terrace** a street along the face or top of a slope
- View** a street with a view
- Way** a path or route

Community Boards, Committees and Groups to be consulted

A list of Community Boards, Committees and Groups is as follows:

Community Boards	Community Groups	
Huntly	Eureka	North East Waikato
Ngaruawahia	Glen Afton/Pukemiro	Newstead
Onewhero-Tuakau	Glen Massey	Pokeno
Raglan	Gordonton	Rangariri

Taupiri	Horongarara	Tamahere
	Horsham Downs	Tauwhare
	Matangi	Te Kowhai
Community Committees		
Meremere	Port Waikato Residents & Ratepayers	
Te Kauwhata	Whatawhata Residents & Ratepayers	

Policy Statements

All road names require approval by the Infrastructure Committee. This includes all road names to be included on the Approved List.

Naming Public Roads

Public Roads to be vested in Council shall be named (at the cost of the developer).

Public Road Signs shall be in accordance with Manual of Traffic Signs and Markings - Part 1 Section 7 Guide Signs (Design, Policy, Location)

Naming Private Roads

Private roads shall be named (at the cost of the developer) where there are 6 or more lots gaining access. If there are 5 or fewer lots gaining access, the developer may use the number with lettering suffix A-E or suggest a private name as per section 1.2.

Private Road Signs shall have blue lower case lettering with initial capitals lettering on a white background and shall have a supplementary 'Private Access' plate with blade height of 75mm attached to the bottom edge of the street name plate. All other sign attributes shall comply with the Manual of Traffic Signs and Markings.

I. Making a Request for Road Name(s)

I.1 Using a road name from the 'Approved List'

- (a) Where an 'Approved List' is available, the subdivision developer shall be invited to choose from that list and submit a written request to Council's Roding Asset Team. Note: It is advised that the subdivision developer discusses their road name selection with the Roding Asset Team to ensure the road name has not already been used (and not yet taken off the list) or is proposed to be used by another subdivision developer.

I.2 Request for Road Name not from the "Approved List" of Road Names

- (a) Where an "Approved List" is not available or the subdivision developer wishes to choose their own road names, the developer shall follow the guideline included in section 3 of this policy and make a request to Council's Roding Asset Team. Council's Roding Asset Team shall then follow procedure as set out in section 2.3.
- (b) Council's Roding Asset Team shall ensure the request is complete before proceeding with the process for name approval, as set out in section 3 below. Should the request require further information, Council's Roding Asset Team shall contact the subdivision developer by phone, email or in writing.

2. Infrastructure Committee Procedure

2.1 Establishing Road Names onto the 'Approved List'

- (a) Ward Councillor's shall consult with Community Boards, Community Committees, Community Groups and local Iwi, in accordance with Guidelines section 3.2, to establish a tentative list of road names. Tentative names are to be checked by the Rooding Asset Team then submitted and approved by the Infrastructure Committee before inclusion on the 'approved list'. Iwi consultation can be co-ordinated by Waikato District Council Iwi & Community Partnership Manager. Council shall hold the 'approved list'.

All road names, once approved by the Infrastructure Committee and included on the "approved list" do not require any further approvals from the Infrastructure Committee.

- (b) The "approved list" shall be reviewed from time to time as appropriate by the Community Boards/ Committees/ Groups to ensure the list comprises a sufficient number of road names (i.e. more than 20 names at any one time).

Note: An approved list may not be available for every Community. Ward Councillor's shall determine whether or not an approved list is required for their Community depending on whether there is a need.

2.2 Altering Existing Road Names

- (a) In the event an existing road requires renaming, a request shall be made by either the general public or Council in accordance with section 2.3.
- (b) Where the request is being made by the general public for the alteration, they shall be responsible for undertaking consultation with both the residents of the road to be renamed and the ward councillors. The ward councillors will advise whether further consultation is required with the Community Board/Committee before making the amendment request to Council.
- (c) Where the request for amendment is being made by Council, Council's Rooding Asset Team shall undertake consultation with all owners and occupiers in the affected street or road; the local Ward Councillors; and Community Board/ Committees/ Groups before reporting to the Infrastructure Committee.
- (d) In the event of an unfavourable response from owners and occupiers (less than 75% in favour), the road name shall remain unchanged.
- (e) If 75% approval is gained from the responses received, Council's Rooding Asset Team will recommend to the Infrastructure Committee that the name be approved.

2.3 Road Name Requests to the Infrastructure Committee or Council

- (a) Upon receiving a request as set out in section 1.2 from either a subdivision developer, or as required by Council (if there is a road name change required), shall undertake consultation with local iwi, Community Boards, Community Committees and Community Groups. Following consultation a report (in accordance to Guidelines Section 3 shall be prepared by Council's Rooding Asset Team recommending approval from either the Infrastructure Committee or Council.

- (b) In the case of no support from the Community Board/ Committees/ Groups the Infrastructure Committee will make final decision on approving the Road Name(s).
- (c) Upon approval of a road name Council's Roding Asset Team shall notify external agencies (i.e. Land Information New Zealand, Emergency Services).
- (d) Council's Roding Asset Team will report to Council twice yearly (in June & December) with a list and map of all new road names confirmed over the previous 6 months. An updated Road Name directory shall also be provided before this meeting.

3 Guidelines and Criteria for Selection of Road Names

3.1 Making a request to Council's Roding Asset Team

All requests for road names shall be in writing and submitted to Council's Roding Asset Team. All requests shall include the following details (as applicable):

- i) Three proposed road names (using guidance below); and
- ii) The reasons the subdivision developer wants to use these options (see guidance below); and
- iii) Evidence to support the reasons outlined above in criteria (ii) (if applicable)

3.2 When considering options for road names, the following criteria must be taken into account:

- (a) Names should be brief (i.e. restricted to one word only) and be easily and readily pronounced. Identical sounding names with different spelling are to be avoided.
- (b) Names should not duplicate any existing district roads and preferably any name occurring within surrounding districts, including Hamilton and Auckland.
- (c) The length of the name should preferably not exceed 12-15 characters. The use of hyphens to connect parts of names should in most cases be avoided and the name written either as one word or as separate words where established by usage.
- (d) Short names should be chosen for short streets for mapping purposes.
- (e) Reasons for a road name may include but is not limited to: political, historical (including Maaori or early settler), memorial, social or economic, natural features, outstanding events or persons as categorized in section 3.3 below.

3.3 Weighting Categories and Description

The following categories have been afforded a weighting based on their importance with respect to road name selection. The higher the weighting afforded (i.e. 3), the higher the importance.

History – Weighting 3

- (a) The name of a historical family, event industry or activity associated with the area. Such names may include early settlers and early notable families.
- (b) The family name of the former owner of a farm or property or the name of the farm or property may be used if a historical context is established. Permission of surviving relatives should be obtained where appropriate.

Culture – Weighting 3 (Cultural significance to Maaori or culture other than Maaori)

- (a) The category includes the name of a Maaori heritage precinct, site or track or traditional appropriate name for the area.
- (b) All Maaori names are to be submitted to Council's Iwi & Community Partnership Manager to ensure that they are appropriate; spelt correctly, interpreted correctly and are not offensive to Maaori.
- (c) Joint non-Maaori/Maaori names will not generally be considered.

Geography – Weighting 2

- (a) The category includes local geographical, topographical, geological and landscape features.
- (b) Local flora and fauna also included in this category eg. Trees, plants and animals that is widespread and plentiful in the area.
- (c) Views must be readily identifiable.

Theme – Weighting 2 (Common or established themes in the area)

- (a) Where more than one road is being created in a development, a common theme is recommended for the names.
- (b) Where there is an established theme in the area, new road names should reflect this theme.
- (c) Proposed themes for a new subdivision must be submitted to council for approval.

Noteworthy Person – Weighting 1

- (a) Persons who have made a notable contribution to the area of the District. The contribution may be in conservation, community service, sport, arts, military, commerce, local government or other activity.
- (b) Names from local war memorials will be considered where appropriate. Permission of surviving relatives should be obtained where appropriate.

Policy Review

This policy will be due for review in 2018.

[Previous Policies - WDC06/11/1/3, WDC07/12/05/1/12 & WDC09/03/08/1/4]