



Naming of Roads, Reserves and Public Places Policy

Classification	Policy
Strategic reference	Goal 4 : Governance and Organisational Culture
Relevant legislation	<i>Local Government Act 1999</i>
Relevant documents	Nil
Responsible officer	Manager Infrastructure Services
Version	2.0
Date adopted	March 2024
Date of Effect	3 April 2024
Next review date	March 2028

1. STATEMENT

- 1.1. A council has the power under section 219 of the *Local Government Act 1999* (“the Act”) to assign a name to, or change the name of:
 - 1.1.1. a public road;
 - 1.1.2. a private road;
 - 1.1.3. and a public place.
- 1.2. Council provides a numbering system for properties on urban roads in a manner that will assist motorists, emergency services and other providers to locate properties easily within Southern Mallee District Council in accordance with section 220 of the *Local Government Act 1999*.
- 1.3. Council must assign a name to each public road created by land division.
- 1.4. All sealed public roads and all formed public roads within the council area that are regularly accessed will be assigned a name. This does not include ‘unmade’ road reserves.
- 1.5. All formed private roads that are accessible to the public will be assigned a name. The exception is that private roads with five or less property addresses do not need to be named and in these cases, address numbers will be assigned off the road that the private road adjoins. This includes roads within complexes such as hospitals, retirement villages, and roads in parks etc.
- 1.6. The naming of state roads is the responsibility of the Department of Infrastructure and Transport (DIT).
- 1.7. Road name signs that identify each public road will, as far as practicable, be placed at every road intersection and will clearly indicate the road to which it applies.



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2. INITIATING THE ROAD AND PUBLIC PLACE NAMING PROCESS

2.1. A public place or road naming process may be initiated if:

- 2.1.1. A request is received by Council from an affected landowner or their agent;
- 2.1.2. Council resolves that a name change be investigated;
- 2.1.3. Council staff determine it is in the public interest to investigate a change in road name;
- 2.1.4. Council opens or forms a road; or
- 2.1.5. Council receives an application for a land division.

3. NAMES OF ROADS AND PUBLIC PLACES

3.1. In the naming and renaming of public places and roads the following principles will be observed.

UNIQUENESS

- 3.1.1. A public place or road will have only one name.
- 3.1.2. A name will be unique within an official suburb or rural locality. Duplicate names within a suburb/locality will be resolved in order to avoid confusion (e.g. emergency services response).
- 3.1.3. Roads that are maintained by the Department for Infrastructure and Transport (DIT) will be named by DIT. Council will consult with DIT in relation to naming these roads.
- 3.1.4. Duplicate names and similar sounding names (e.g. Paice, Payce or Pace Roads) within a locality will be avoided where possible.
- 3.1.5. If possible, duplication of names in proximity to an adjacent locality will also be avoided. However, roads crossing council boundaries should have a single and unique name.
- 3.1.6. 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

3.1.7. Sources for public place and road names may include:

- Aboriginal names related to Ngarkat culture or language;
- Eminent persons;
- Local history;
- Thematic names such as flora, fauna, ships etc.
- War/casualty lists and
- Commemorative names



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3.1.8. Names will be selected so as to be appropriate to the physical, historical or cultural character of the area concerned.

3.1.9. The origin of each name will be clearly stated and recorded as part of the Council's historical records.

3.1.10. Aboriginal leaders or organisations will be consulted when choosing Aboriginal names or using words from relevant Aboriginal languages.

PROPRIETY

3.1.11. Names of living persons will be avoided.

3.1.12. Names, which are characterised as listed, will not be used.

- Offensive or likely to give offence;
- Names that are incongruous, or out of place; or
- Commercial in nature or are a company name.

COMMUNICATION

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

3.1.14. 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. e.g. Pinnaroo – Loxton Road.

SPELLING

3.1.15. 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 Government Gazette.

3.1.16. 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.



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- 3.1.17. Generally road names proposed or approved will not contain abbreviations e.g. 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

- 3.1.18. The apostrophe mark ‘ will be omitted in the possessive case e.g. “Smith’s Road” will be “Smiths Road”.

- 3.1.19. Names will avoid the use of the possessive “s” unless the euphony becomes harsh e.g. “Devil Elbow”.

- 3.1.20. The use of hyphens will be avoided. However, hyphens may be used when naming a road after a person with a hyphenated name.

3.2. Type of Road or Public Place

- 3.2.1. 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 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, e.g.,
 - Crescent – a crescent or half-moon, re-joining the road from which it starts;
 - Esplanade – open, level and often along the seaside or a river.
- For a cul-de-sac use Place, Close, Court or a suffix of similar connotation.
- 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.

- 3.2.2. The following list of suitable road type suffixes is included as examples. (The list has been sourced from Australian standards AS 1742.5 – 1997 and AS4212 – 1994. An expanded road type list and acceptable abbreviations can be sourced from AS4590:2006. In most instances the connotations are clear but where necessary a definition can be checked in a dictionary.) Only road types shown in the standards documents will be used.



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Alley	Avenue	Boulevard	Bypass
Circle	Circuit	Circus	Close
Court	Crescent	Drive	Arcade
Grove	Lane	Mews	Parade
Parkway	Place	Plaza	Promenade
Road	Row	Square	Street
Terrace	Walk	Way	

3.3. No Prefix or Additional Suffix

3.3.1. The use of a compass point prefix/suffix or an additional suffix such as “north” or “extension” will be avoided, particularly where new roads are to be named. Where an existing road is subsequently bisected as a result of traffic management planning or some other reason, it may be appropriate to delineate each half of the road by the addition of a compass point suffix for the purpose of assisting the community and the emergency services to locate the appropriate part of the road.

4. NAMING OF PRIVATE ROADS

4.1. This policy covers all formed roads that are regularly accessed and therefore includes private roads. Private landowners are not obliged to seek Council approval for naming their roads. However, there is a public interest in encouraging private landowners 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.

4.2. Unless otherwise agreed, the private landowner/developer is responsible for the cost and erection of private road signage. Council's involvement for siting of signage is recommended.

5. CONSULTATION WITH ADJOINING COUNCILS

5.1. 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 S.219 (2) of the LG Act)

6. PUBLIC NOTICE OF NAME ASSIGNMENT OF CHANGE

6.1. Council will give public notice of the assigning or changing of a road name. This will be by publication in the Government Gazette, Council's website and by notice in a newspaper circulating within the area of Council, as required under the LG Act...



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7. ADVISE RELEVANT PARTIES OF NEW NAME OR NAME CHANGE

7.1. Council will provide written notice (e.g. email) of Council's decision on a new road name or name change to all relevant parties, including: Registrar General; Surveyor General; Valuer General; the owner of the road (if a private road); owners of abutting properties; Australia Post; Telstra; SA Water; SA Power Networks; SA Police; SA Ambulance service; and SA Country Fire Service.

8. DATE OF EFFECT FOR NEW NAMES OR NAME CHANGES

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

8.2. The date of effect will be determined after considering:

- 8.2.1. In respect of renaming an existing road, the impact on existing property owners, residents, tenants and occupiers. For example, the time required to advise relevant parties to change letterhead stationery and advertising references;
- 8.2.2. Potential confusion for people using maps and street directories that effectively become out of date; and
- 8.2.3. The desire of some developers to sell property 'off the plan' and the opportunity for new owners to know their future address at an early stage.

8.3. Council will update the Register of Public Roads as required by S231 of the LG Act.

9. ROAD NAME SIGNAGE

9.1. Council will ensure road naming signage in accordance with the relevant Australian standard is erected. Signage may be erected during construction of a sub-division

10. AVAILABILITY

10.1. This Policy is available free of charge on the Council's Website:
www.southernmallee.sa.gov.au

A printed copy of the Policy may be purchased from the Principal Council Office, Day Street, Pinnaroo, upon payment of a prescribed fee in accordance with Council's Schedule of Fees and Charges.

11. FURTHER INFORMATION

This Policy will be reviewed every four (4) years or more frequently if legislation or Council requires.

12. ADOPTION & AMENDMENT HISTORY

The table below sets out the adoption, review and amendment history of the Policy.



Naming of Roads, Reserves and Public Places Policy

Version No:	Issue Date:	Authorised by:	Description of Change:	Minutes Reference:
1.0	March 2020	Council	Council adopted Selection of Road and Public Place Names Policy	Ordinary Council – 18 March 2020
2.0	March 2024	Council	Review resulting in minor reformatting of the document. Name change from 'Selection of Roads and public Place names Policy' to "Naming of Roads, Reserves and Public Places Policy"	Ordinary Council – 20 March 2024