

---

# Road Naming Policy

## 1. Preamble

The contents of and the commitments that Council makes in this policy are not intended to be and should not be interpreted to be any more than a statement of the Council's general position in relation to those matters, and to facilitate its aspirations wherever it is reasonable to do so.

## 2. Purpose

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
- a private road
- a public place.

A recent amendment to section 219 requires councils to prepare and adopt a policy relating to the assigning of road names.

The purpose of this policy is to outline the principles to be observed in the naming of roads.

This policy will be read in conjunction with the companion 'Road Naming Procedure'.

## 3. Policy Principles

This policy has drawn on the Department for Transport, Energy and Infrastructure *Guidelines for the Selection of Names for Roads in SA*, which were developed for the Rural Property Addressing Project, and the relevant Australian Standards including Standards AS1742.5-1986 AS4212-1994 AS4590-2006 AS1742.5-1997.

The recent changes to the Local Government Act enable the delegation by the Council of the power to assign road names to the council administration. Councils will need to consider whether to delegate this power and if so, on what conditions. Council's Road Naming Procedure will provide the agreed approach to this activity. This policy is based upon delegation under certain circumstances of the power to assign road names. Alternatively, each decision to assign names to roads in the council area must be by council resolution.

In the naming and renaming of public roads, the following principles will be observed:

### 3.1 Uniqueness

A road will have only one name.

A road name and road type suffix will be unique within an official suburb or rural locality. Duplicate road names within a suburb/locality will be resolved if the situation causes confusion (eg emergency services response).

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

Similar sounding names (eg Paice, Payce or Pace Roads) 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.

### 3.2 Name sources

Sources for road names may include:

- Aboriginal names taken from the local Aboriginal language
- early explorers, pioneers and settlers
- eminent persons
- local history
- thematic names such as flora, fauna, ships etc
- war/casualty lists
- commemorative names.

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

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

The local Aboriginal (Kurna Warra Pinttyandi) community will be consulted when choosing Aboriginal names or using words from relevant Aboriginal languages.

### 3.3 Propriety

Names of living persons should be avoided.

Names, which are characterised as follows, will not be used:

- offensive or likely to give offence
- incongruous – out of place
- commercial or company.

### 3.4 Communication

Names will be reasonably easy to read, spell and pronounce in order to assist 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 eg Proof Range Road
- roads with double destination names will be avoided.

### 3.5 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 Government Gazette.

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 rather than local usage will be adopted.

Generally, road names proposed or approved will not contain abbreviations eg 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'.

### 3.6 Form

The apostrophe mark will be omitted in the possessive case eg 'Smith's Road' will be Smiths Road'.

Names will avoid the use of the possessive 's' unless the euphony becomes harsh eg 'Devil Elbow'.

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

### 3.7 Road type

Road names will include an appropriate road type suffix conforming to 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 eg
  - Crescent – a crescent or loop, rejoining 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.

The following list of suitable road type suffixes is included as examples.

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

(The list has been sourced from Australian Standards AS 1742.5 - 1986 and AS 4212 – 1994. An expanded road type list and acceptable abbreviations can be sourced from AS 4590:2006. 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.)

### 3.8 No prefix or additional suffix

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 purposes of assisting the community and the emergency services to locate the appropriate part of the road.

## 4. Definitions

*Public Road* – A road under appropriate land or road legislation and which the public is entitled, as of right, to use as a thoroughfare or access. (Note: A public road may or may not be formed or constructed)

*Private Road* - A trafficable route with the right of passage restricted to the owner of the land and other persons possessing the consent of the owner(s). (Note: Also includes private rights of way and shared access lots deemed suitable for naming by the relevant jurisdictional road naming authority)

## 5. Role statement

### 5.1 Direct service provider

Our role as a direct service provider is to provide names for public roads in a number of circumstances including:

- the naming of new roads as part of the land division process
- renaming of roads
- naming of roads that were previously unnamed
- naming of private roads with the agreement of the owner(s) of the road.

## 6. References

Section 219 of the Local Government Act 1999

Australian Standards AS1742.5-1986 AS4212-1994 AS4590-2006 AS1742.5-1997

Guidelines for the Selection of Names for Roads in South Australia dated April 2010

City of Onkaparinga Road Naming Procedure

## 7. Review and evaluation

This policy will be regularly monitored and reviewed. Public notice will be given on adoption or altering of this policy. (See s.219(7) LG Act).

## 8. Attachments

N/A

<b>Responsible officer(s)/department(s):</b>	General Manager City Development Manager Public Health and Safety
<b>Adopted/approved by:</b>	Council
<b>Date approved/adopted:</b>	15 June 2010
<b>DataWorks number:</b>	DW1688596

*The electronic copy is the approved version.*

Before using a printed copy, verify that it is the current version.

City of Onkaparinga  
PO Box 1  
NOARLUNGA CENTRE SA 5168

Telephone: 8384 0666  
Email: [mail@onkaparinga.sa.gov.au](mailto:mail@onkaparinga.sa.gov.au)  
Website: [www.onkaparingacity.com](http://www.onkaparingacity.com)

COUNCIL