

Road Naming – Advice for Developers

Where private roads, private ways, rights of way etc., are to be named, the provisions of the Road Naming Policy - July 2009 will apply.

Do this First

- 1 Consult on road names with all the affected property owners serviced by roads in the development, even if the properties serviced by those roads, are outside the development. Provide evidence of consultation.
- 2 Consult with Māori when Māori names are proposed. Do this early to avoid delays. Provide evidence of consultation. The names must be appropriate, spelt correctly, interpreted correctly, and not be offensive to Māori.
- 3 Choose a common theme for the road names where more than one road is being named. Where there is an established theme in an area, new road names within the area should reflect this theme.

Submit the following for Council approval

- 4 A plan identifying all public roads, private ways, private access lots, etc., within the area of interest annotated with the proposed status of each road, i.e. road to vest in Council, private access lot, private right of way, etc. Also a concept plan of the development showing all stages.
- 5 **Three proposed names** in order of preference **for each road** shown on the plan - e.g. four roads require 12 different names. Test for duplication by comparing each name **minus its suffix** (see item 7 below).

Please Note The 1st name preference is not always the one that is approved by Council – so choose the 2nd and 3rd names carefully – one of these may be approved and you will have to live with it.

- 6 A **reason for each name**, including any meaning, origins, historical background, relationship with a theme, link with the area, etc. Names are to **reflect the historical, geographical or cultural** significance associated with the area, a **common or established theme** in the area (*please state the theme - see paragraph 3 above*) or the name of a noteworthy person. For further details see item 19 below “**Road Name Categories**”.

Requirements

- 7 Ensure that **road names are not duplicated** in the Whangarei District (*both spelling and pronunciation to be considered*); this includes same road names with different suffix. Test for duplication by comparing each road name **minus its suffix**. As a guide use the “**Road Index**” (*available on Council website*) to avoid duplication of names.
- 8 Ensure that **road type** appropriately **matches** the definition of the **suffix**, such as “road”, “avenue” etc. Road names without a suffix are now strongly discouraged. The following (*updated*) definitions provide a guide, but please note that other appropriate suffixes that are not in this list may be used.

Suffix	Definition
Avenue	A generally broad straight roadway with trees or other objects at regular intervals
Boulevard	A broad main street often planted with trees and grass plots
Close	A short enclosed road. Cul-de-sac
Court	A short enclosed road. Cul-de-sac
Crescent	A crescent or half-moon shaped street rejoining the road from which it starts
Crest	A roadway running along the top or summit of a hill
Drive	An especially scenic road or street. A main connecting route in a subdivision or suburb
Glade	A roadway usually in a valley of trees
Glen	A roadway through a narrow valley
Grove	A road that often features a group of trees standing together
Heights	A roadway traversing high ground
Lane	A narrow way, path, country road or street. A narrow passage between hedges or buildings, an alley

Suffix	Definition
Parade	A public promenade or roadway with good pedestrian facilities along the side
Place	A short sometimes narrow enclosed roadway. Cul-de-sac
Quay	A roadway along the waterfront
Ridge	A roadway along the top of a hill
Rise	A roadway going to a higher place or position
Road	Route or way between places. General usage. Defined in Local Government Act 1974, Sec. 315
Street	A township carriageway that has buildings usually on both sides. General usage
Terrace	A roadway usually with houses on either side raised above the road level
Track	A narrow country road that may end in pedestrian access
Vale	A roadway along low ground between hills
View	A roadway commanding a wide panoramic view across the surrounding areas
Walk	A thoroughfare with restricted vehicle access used mainly by pedestrians
Way	A winding or curved track or path for passing along

9 The following are suitable suffixes for particular road types:

Road Type	Suffix
Cul-de-sac (short dead-end street with turnaround at the end)	Close, Court, Place
Wide spacious street	Avenue, Boulevard, Parade

10 The following are suitable suffixes for **private roads** and **private ways** categorised into particular road types:

Road Type	Suffix
Narrow road and right of way	Lane, Track, Way
Associated with high ground	Crest, Heights, Rise, Ridge, View
Associated with low ground	Glade, Glen, Grove, Vale
Tree lined road	Glade, Grove

Style Guide

- 11 All road names entirely at the discretion of Council whether for policy reasons or other considerations.
- 12 Names should be easy to spell and pronounce and have an appropriate meaning. Unduly long, cumbersome or difficult to pronounce names to be avoided. Names cannot be offensive, insensitive, ambiguous, nor have a double meaning. The possessive "s" is discouraged in road names unless euphony becomes harsh.
- 13 Names should generally be 15 characters or less including spaces but excluding suffix. However in exceptional circumstances longer road names may be allowed. Short Names should be chosen for short streets for mapping purposes. Cardinal points of the compass as a prefix or suffix to a road name should not be used.
- 14 Māori names may require diacritical marks such as macrons to preserve the correct meaning but generally hyphens, apostrophe marks, etc. should be avoided.
- 15 Generally roads should not be named after any commercial organisation or any living or recently deceased person. Road names should not be anagrams, amalgamations or derivatives of people's names.

Signage

- 16 The developer of a subdivision is required to provide and erect the road/access way nameplate and post. All signage is to comply with Council's standards (*see Council's Environmental Engineering Standards*).
- 17 Council will provide and erect nameplates and posts for newly named existing public and private access ways that are not part of a recent subdivision.
- 18 Council will maintain all Council approved road name signs.

Road Name Categories

19 The reason for each road name should be chosen from the following categories:

a History

- i The name of a historical person, event, industry or activity associated with the area. Such names may include early settlers and early notable people such as conservationists or naturalists.
- ii 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.

b Culture (*Cultural significance to Māori or culture other than Māori*)

- i This category includes the name of a Māori heritage precinct, site or track or traditional appropriate Māori name for the area. All Māori names are to be submitted to an Iwi representative to ensure that they are appropriate.
- ii Māori should be consulted as to whether they have an interest in the land on which the road is to be constructed and asked if they wish to contribute names at the beginning of the Resource Consent process.
- iii Joint non-Māori/Māori names will not generally be considered.
- iv An example of social or cultural heritage other than Māori is the Scottish/Celtic heritage in the Waipu area.

c Geography

- i This category includes local geographical, topographical, geological and landscape features.
Topography - Description of the physical features of a specific place. Refers to natural and manmade structures that make up the shape of a landscape including mountains, valleys, plains, lakes, rivers and vegetation as well as roads, boundaries, transmission lines, and major buildings.
- ii Local flora and fauna also fall into this category e.g. trees, plants and animals that are widespread and plentiful in the area.
- iii Views must be readily identifiable.

d Theme (*Common or established themes in the area*)

- i Where more than one road is being created in a development, a common theme is recommended for the names. Proposed themes for a new subdivision must be submitted to Council for approval.
- ii Where there is an established theme in an area, new road names should reflect this theme.
- iii When all the roads in a development or suburb fit a theme, the road layout of the development is easier to remember. The area will stand out on a map.
- iv A theme may contribute to a sense of community within the area. A well chosen theme with the roads named accordingly can leave a lasting impression long after the development process has been completed.

e Noteworthy Person (*Personal name for special service to the district or community*)

- i Persons who have made a notable contribution to the area or the district fall into this category. The contribution which can be duly recognised may be in conservation, community service, sport, arts, military, commerce, local government or other sphere of activity.
- ii Names from local war memorials will be considered where appropriate. Permission of surviving relatives should be obtained where appropriate.
- iii Generally roads should not be named after any commercial organisation or any living or recently deceased person. Road names should not be anagrams, amalgamations or derivatives of people's names.