



ROAD AND PUBLIC PLACE NAMING POLICY

Corporate Document

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Purpose

To provide a rationale and framework for the naming of roads and public places in Mosman.

Objectives

The application of this Policy is to achieve the following objectives:

- Ensure a consistent procedure for the naming of local roads and public places within Mosman
- Ensure that road and public place names comply with the relevant legislation and locality requirements
- Promote the use of names within the local government area which are identifiable, embrace Mosman's heritage and are locatable and where appropriate that they have an aboriginal context or are names of historical Mosman identities
- Provide staff, the local community and future developers with clear information on Council's requirements for the naming of roads and public places
- Encourage public participation in the naming and renaming procedure

Scope

This policy applies to Councillors to assist them in determining names of roads and public places within Mosman and to staff administering the Policy.

Application

Council is required to name roads and public places for a variety of circumstances which may originate from resident request or Council resolution. The below details the consideration framework for naming of roads and public spaces which will ultimately require a Council resolution and approval by the NSW Geographical Names Board (GNB).

Naming Convention

When naming or renaming roads and public places this should be undertaken in accordance with relevant legislation and the requirements of the GNB. The GNB is empowered by the *Geographical Names Act 1966* which provides it the authority to assign names to places; to investigate and determine the form, spelling, meaning, pronunciation, origin and history of any geographical name; and to determine the application of each name with regard to position, extent or other reference.

Sources

Council's preference for sources of names generally in order of preference includes:

- Aboriginal names relevant to the local area
- local history and heritage
 - this includes references to Mosman's diverse cultural history
 - early explorers, pioneers, settlers and other eminent women and men
 - war/casualty lists
- thematic names such as flora, fauna or ships relevant to Mosman
- names suited to the physical, historical or cultural character of Mosman
- commemorative names
- the following requirements are also to be observed when assigning names:

- first names will only be included where it is necessary to appropriately recognise an individual;
- Council will usually only use names posthumously, except where an individual has made an exceptional contribution to the Mosman Community and the attribution of that name is not controversial within the Community;
- names of individuals currently holding public office will not be used

Further in relation to Roads the following requirements are to be observed:

Uniqueness

Name duplications of roads within Mosman must be avoided. This includes homophones or other similarities in names. Eg. "White Street" and "Whyte Street". Similarly, duplicate road names in close proximity to neighbouring local government areas are to be avoided. However, roads crossing Council boundaries ought to have one consistent name. So long as it is practicable, roads will have a continuous unique name from the beginning to end of a road, regardless of Council boundaries, landforms and intersecting roads.

Communication

Names should be easy to read, spell and pronounce. Unduly long names are to be avoided, as are names of three or more words including the road type. (An exception to this may be where multiple words are necessary due to their geographic relationship with the area ie Whiting Beach Road). Further, short streets ought to have short names to prevent unnecessary crowding on maps. The use of given names generally ought to be avoided, unless it is essential to identify an individual to avoid ambiguity. Roads with double destination names are to be avoided.

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 is adopted. Where names have been changed or corrupted by long established local usage, Council will only alter or restore the previous name where community support for the change has been evidenced. Council will not adopt names with abbreviations (eg 'Creek' in 'Wallaby Creek Road' is not to be abbreviated), with the exceptions of "St" for "Saint" and "Mt" for "Mount".

Form

Council will omit apostrophes from road names. eg Smith's Road becomes 'Smiths Road'. Further, where possible, Council will avoid the use of the possessive 's', unless the euphony becomes harsh. Council will also avoid the use of hyphens, slashes and other diacritical marks. Council will write any numbers in a road name alpha rather than numeric form.

Road Type

The appropriate suffix for the road name (eg street, lane, crescent etc) must be used for the geographical location of the road to be named. An extensive list of various road types is available in the "NSW Addressing User Manual" - Geographical Names Board.

Prefixes

The use of a compass points prefix/suffix such as "north" or "extension" will be avoided, particularly where new roads are to be named. An exception may be granted where it may be appropriate to delineate each half of a road by the addition of a compass point suffix for the purposes of assisting the community and emergency services to locate the appropriate part of the road.

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Propriety

Names which are characterised as follows are to be avoided:

- Offensive or likely to give offence
- Incongruous - out of place
- Commercial or company

Community Consultation

When considered appropriate Council will seek suggestions and or comments from the community on names proposed for roads and public places. This will be undertaken in accordance with Council's adopted Community Engagement Strategy.

Related Information/Glossary

The Policy should be read in conjunction with the following policies and documents:

- Community Engagement Strategy
- Street Address and Allotment Amendment Policy

The Policy should be read in conjunction with the following documents/legislation:

- AS/NZS 4819:2011 Geographic Information - Rural and Urban Addressing
- AS1742.5-1997 Manual of uniform traffic control devices - Part 5 Street name and community facility name signs
- Geographical Names Act 1966 (Section 12)
- Guidelines for the Determination of Place Names, March 2013
- Roads Act 1993 (Section 162)
- Roads Regulation 2008 (Sections 7 - 10)

Review

This policy will be reviewed every four years unless otherwise directed by Council or the Executive team.

Contact

Enquiries should be directed to the Director Corporate Services on 9978 4000.

Amendments

Date	Amendment	Reference
15/02/1977	Adopted	C/09
02/02/1987	Reviewed	F/103
06/06/2017	Reviewed	CS/19