

Kaupapa Here Whakaingoatia Huarahi

Road Naming Policy

Executive Summary

The South Taranaki District Council (the Council) is responsible for the naming and renaming of roads (as defined under this Policy) within its District. Road names are used to accurately locate properties. This includes emergency services, postal and delivery services, utility services (such as power, telephone, and water), and electoral purposes; and contributes to making our communities safer.

The naming of roads also provides the community with a sense of self, identity, cultural integrity and belonging.

The Local Government Act 1974 defines a road as squares or places intended for use by the public generally. This definition includes streets, access ways and service lanes, but excludes motorways.

Council's Role and Responsibility

The Council is responsible for the naming and renaming of roads within its District. This can also include streets, access ways and service lanes.

Purpose of the Policy

The purpose of the Policy is to ensure that the approach to the naming and renaming of roads is consistent and there is a process to rename culturally offensive or inappropriate road names that is inclusive of mana whenua. Road names used should reflect the cultural identity of the District.

Requirements of the Act

Under sections 319, 319A and 319(j) of the Local Government Act 1974, the Council is responsible for naming roads and streets within the District.

Te Tiriti o Waitangi

This Policy will be aligned to the Council's obligations under Te Tiriti o Waitangi and the Iwi-Council Partnership Strategy with its Iwi partners: Te Kāhui o Rauru, Ngāti Ruanui, Te Korowai o Ngāruahine, and Te Kāhui o Taranaki.

Vision

South Taranaki road names reflect a collective understanding of our history and cultural identity.

Objectives

The objectives of this Policy are:

- To provide clear, consistent, and logical approaches to the naming and renaming of roads within the District.
- To ensure a safer community by facilitating accurate property identification for emergency services.
- Residents, mana whenua, communities, and stakeholders, are engaged to co-design and participate in shaping the direction of the name of roads within the District.
- Mana whenua will have a specific partnership decision making role.
- To ensure the character of the District is maintained and enhanced.

Definitions

Access way means any passageway created to provide the public with a convenient pedestrian route between any roads, service lanes, reserves, or public places; as more specifically defined in section 315(1) of the Local Government Act 1974.

Act means the Local Government Act 1974.

Applicant means an individual or entity that is making an application.

Bylaw means the current and operative South Taranaki District Council's Public Places Bylaw.

Council means Te Kaunihera o Taranaki ki Te Tonga/South Taranaki District Council.

District means the South Taranaki District.

Developer means an applicant who is developing an area of the District, through the subdivision process or through the building process.

LINZ means Toitū te Whenua - Land Information New Zealand.

LINZ Addressing Guidance means *Guidelines for Addressing in-fill Developments 2019* (LINZ OP G 01245) and *Guideline for addressing in retirement villages* (LINZ G 80700).

Mana whenua means the Council's Iwi partners: Ngā Rauru Kītahi, Te Runanga o Ngāti Ruanui, Te Korowai o Ngāruahine, and Te Kāhui o Taranaki and their hapū.

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Private road means any roadway, place, or arcade created by the owner of private land, but intended for the use of the public generally; as more specifically defined in section 315(1) of the Local Government Act 1974.

Private way means any way or passage over private land which may only be used by certain persons or classes of persons, and which is not intended for use by the general public; as more specifically defined in section 315(1) of the Local Government Act 1974.

Right of way means a legal right to pass and repass over a specific piece of land. This right can be vehicular or pedestrian and open to the general public or only to certain users or to a class of users, depending on the terms of the right granted.

Road means a road as defined under section 315(1) of the Act, which includes squares or places intended for use by the public generally. This definition includes access ways and service lanes, but excludes motorways.

Road type means the type of road listed in NZS 4819:2011 (and its amendments), and includes the abbreviation/suffix (e.g Ave for Avenue), as attached in Appendix One of this Policy.

Service lane means any lane created to provide the public with a side or rear access for vehicular traffic to any land; as more specifically defined in section 315(1) of the Local Government Act 1974.

Standard means the New Zealand Standard 4819:2011 (Rural and urban addressing) and its amendments.

Policy

1.0 Naming criteria

- 1.1 Preference is given to road names that, in relation to the site concerned, meet one or more of the defined criteria below. These criteria align with the four well-beings that local authorities have a role in promoting under section 10(1)(b) of the Local Government Act 2002:

a) Cultural	Recognition of mana whenua values and principles and/or other cultural significance. The importance of decision-making partnerships is noted.
b) Social	Recognition of historical events that have a significant impact on the community and/or honouring a local resident who has made a significant contribution to the South Taranaki District.
c) Economic	Honouring a significant economic contribution to the South Taranaki District.
d) Environmental	Reflection of the landscape, topographical features, or flora and fauna.

Selection of a road name

- 1.2 When selecting a road name, consideration must be given to section 4.7 of the Standard, together with the following:
- New road names shall not be the same as, or similar to, existing road names within the District (spelling or pronunciation).
 - Roads are to have only one name (excluding the road type – for example: road, street).
 - Road names must be spelt correctly, interpreted correctly, not be offensive and/or culturally inappropriate, and have an appropriate meaning.
 - Roads should not be named after any commercial organisation, or any living or recently deceased person.
 - Road names must not be anagrams, amalgamations, or derivatives of people's names.
 - Names should be 15 characters or less including spaces (excluding the road type).
 - Names are to be chosen in proportion to the length of the road, for cartographic (mapping) purposes.
 - Cardinal points of the compass as a prefix or suffix to a road name will not be approved (for example: north, south, east, or west); or directions (for example upper or lower).

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- i) Names must not lead with “The”, be abbreviated, or use prepositions (for example Avenue of the Allies).
- j) The road type must appropriately match the nature of the road (meaning of road type contained in Appendix One of this Policy) i.e. the nature or extent of a short cul de sac does not match with the road type Esplanade, as it is more likely to fit with the road type of Close or Court.

1.3 The naming of roads is required to follow the process contained in Appendix Two of this Policy.

2.0 Naming a new road

2.1 All formed roads are to be named, (including but not limited to) private roads, roads within complexes such as retirement villages, hospitals, roads within national parks and forests, or pedestrian roads.

Note: naming a road on private land does not mean that the Council is accepting responsibility for that road, other than ensuring the name and addressing is approved in terms of the Standard.

2.2 Road naming and addressing must be undertaken as early as possible in the development process.

Road names are intended to be enduring, and careful consideration must be given during the development phase of a new road – to select a list of names to be considered by the Council.

Note: Naming a road will be carried out in partnership with mana whenua and where necessary the Council will at all stages engage and seek assistance with the road naming process.

2.3 The naming of a new road or right of way, will only be considered by the Council if all information is provided through the application process.

2.4 Any request to name a road or right of way must follow the process set out in Appendix Two of this Policy.

2.5 To avoid repeating the whole process, three distinctly different road names should be submitted for each proposed road or right of way, in case of rejection. The names are to be listed in order of preference by the applicant. It is suggested that the applicant provides their preferred road type with each road name.

2.6 The name must follow the naming criteria under Section 1.2 of this Policy.

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- 2.7 Where more than one road is being created in a subdivision, a common theme is recommended for the proposed names.
- 2.8 The applicant is required to consult with mana whenua in the rohe in which the road is located to determine appropriate names and the order of preference prior to submitting the application. The Council may seek its own direct feedback from mana whenua where it considers this appropriate especially where locations may have significant cultural importance to mana whenua.
- 2.9 On receipt of the application, a response from mana whenua on the proposed names must be provided back to the Council/applicant, within six weeks. If a response has not been provided to the developer within the six week timeframe, the Council will accept that mana whenua will not be providing a response.

Note: Where large subdivisions occur, mana whenua are consulted and engaged as part of the Resource Consent process, and road names are discussed at that stage and evidence of consultation and engagement is required and must be provided to the Council.

Signage

- 2.10 The developer of a subdivision is required to provide and erect the road/access way road sign and pole. This will usually be a condition of resource consent.
- 2.11 All signage is required to comply with the Land Transport Rule: Traffic Control Devices 2004 (and amendments); in conjunction with standards, rules, and guidelines.
- 2.12 The Council will maintain all Council approved road name signage.

3.0 Altering the name of an existing road

- 3.1 Altering the name of an existing named road will only be considered if the Council agrees that the change will result in a clear benefit to the community. Any name change process relating to a street or road which has cultural significance the Council will consult and work in partnership with mana whenua. In consultation with mana whenua the Council may establish a partnership group to manage the name change process. This group will have equal representation from both the Council and mana whenua. Either the Council or mana whenua can seek the formation of a partnership group unless both agree it is not warranted.
- 3.2 Benefits of changing road names may include:
 - a) The alignment with the NZS 4819 – rural and urban addressing standards.

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- b) The correction of spelling or pronunciation (including macrons if recognised by the New Zealand Geographic Board).
 - c) Eliminating duplication in spelling or sound.
 - d) Preventing confusion arising from changes to road layout.
 - e) Making geographical corrections.
 - f) Correcting offensive, culturally insensitive, or misspelt names; or correcting macrons.
- 3.3 A request can be made to change a road name. The request must:
- a) Be in writing; and
 - b) Include clear and evidenced justification for the change; and
 - c) Include three proposed alternative and distinctly different names, which must follow the naming criteria under Section 1.2 of this Policy.
- 3.4 Any request to change a road name must follow the process set out in Appendix Two of this policy.

Consultation for altering an existing road name

- 3.5 If the applicant is not mana whenua, the applicant is required to consult with the mana whenua of the rohe in which the road is located, to determine appropriate names and the order of preference prior to presentation to the Council. Evidence of this consultation must be included in any application to the Council.
- 3.6 On receipt of the application, a response from mana whenua on the proposed names must be provided back to the Council/applicant, within 12 weeks. If a response has not been provided to the applicant within that timeframe, the Council will accept that mana whenua will not be providing a response. The Council may obtain direct feedback from mana whenua where it deems this appropriate and or in accordance with any partnership group formed.
- Note:** Where a partnership group is formed with mana whenua, and a preferred name is agreed a Council officer will provide a report to the Council on the alteration to the road name.
- 3.7 The Council will conduct consultation regarding the altering of a road name. This will include contacting landowners and occupiers who are directly affected by such a change.
- 3.8 Mana whenua will have a specific opportunity to make a submission when Council releases the proposal to rename a road. Mana whenua will be contacted by the Council to ensure the submission process is aligned to any Council decision making process.

3.9 The Council may choose to consult with the wider public on such a proposal, taking into the account the Council's Significance and Engagement Policy.

3.10 The Council shall determine the outcome of any road renaming request.

4.0 More Information

Planning Unit, Policy Unit or Roading Unit
South Taranaki District Council 06 278 0555 or 0800 111 323

5.0 Review of Policy

5.1 This Policy shall be reviewed every five (5) years to ensure the Policy is effective and efficient at achieving the objectives.

5.2 The Council may from time to time by resolution publicly notified, alter any appendices attached.

Appendix One: New Zealand Road Types

The following provides information on the road type and the abbreviation to be used.

Road Type	Abbreviation	Description	Open ended	Cul-de-sac	Pedestrian only
Alley	Aly	Usually narrow roadway in a city or towns	✓	✓	
Arcade	Arc	Passage having an arched roof or covered walkway with shops along the side.			✓
Avenue	Ave	Broad roadway, usually planted on each side with trees	✓		
Boulevard	Blvd	Wide roadway, well paved, usually ornamented with trees and grass plots.	✓		
Circle	Cir	Roadway that generally forms a circle; or a short enclosed roadway bounded by a circle.	✓	✓	
Close	Cl	Short enclosed roadway.		✓	
Court	Crt	Short enclosed roadway, usually surrounded by buildings.		✓	
Crescent	Cres	Crescent shaped roadway, especially where both ends join the same thoroughfare.	✓		
Drive	Dr	Wide roadway without many cross-streets.	✓		
Esplanade	Esp	Level roadway along the seaside, lake, or a river	✓		
Glade	Gld	Roadway usually in a valley of trees.	✓	✓	
Green	Grn	Roadway often leading to a grassed public recreation area.		✓	
Grove	Grv	Roadway that features a group of trees standing together.		✓	
Highway	Hwy	Main thoroughfare between major destinations.	✓		
Lane	Lane	Narrow roadway between walls, buildings or a narrow country roadway. (reserved exclusively for non-public roads).	✓	✓	✓

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Loop	Loop	Roadway that diverges from and re-joins the main thoroughfare.	✓		
Mall	Mall	Wide walkway, usually with shops along the sides.	✓		
Mews	Mews	Roadway having houses grouped around the end.		✓	
Parade	Pde	Public roadway or promenade that has good pedestrian facilities along the side.	✓		
Place	Pl	Short, sometimes narrow, enclosed roadway.		✓	
Promenade	Prom	Wide flat walkway, usually along the water's edge.			✓
Quay	Qy	Roadway alongside or projecting into the water.	✓	✓	
Rise	Rise	Roadway going to a higher place or position.	✓	✓	
Road	Rd	Open roadway primarily for vehicles.	✓		
Square	Sq	Roadway which generally forms a square shape, or an area of roadway bounded by four sides.	✓	✓	
Steps	Stps	Walkway consisting mainly of steps.			✓
Street	St	Public roadway in an urban area, especially paved, with footpaths and buildings along one or both sides.	✓		
Terrace	Tce	Roadway on a hilly area that is mainly flat.	✓	✓	
Track	Trk	Walkway in natural setting.			✓
Walk	Walk	Thoroughfare for pedestrians.			✓
Way	Way	Short enclosed roadway. (Reserved exclusively for non-public roads).		✓	✓
Wharf	Whrf	A road on a wharf or pier.	✓	✓	✓

Ara / Te Ara - The Māori road types 'Ara' and 'Te Ara' may be used as the first part of a road name, which is an exception to the general principles in the Standard and LINZ Addressing Guidance.

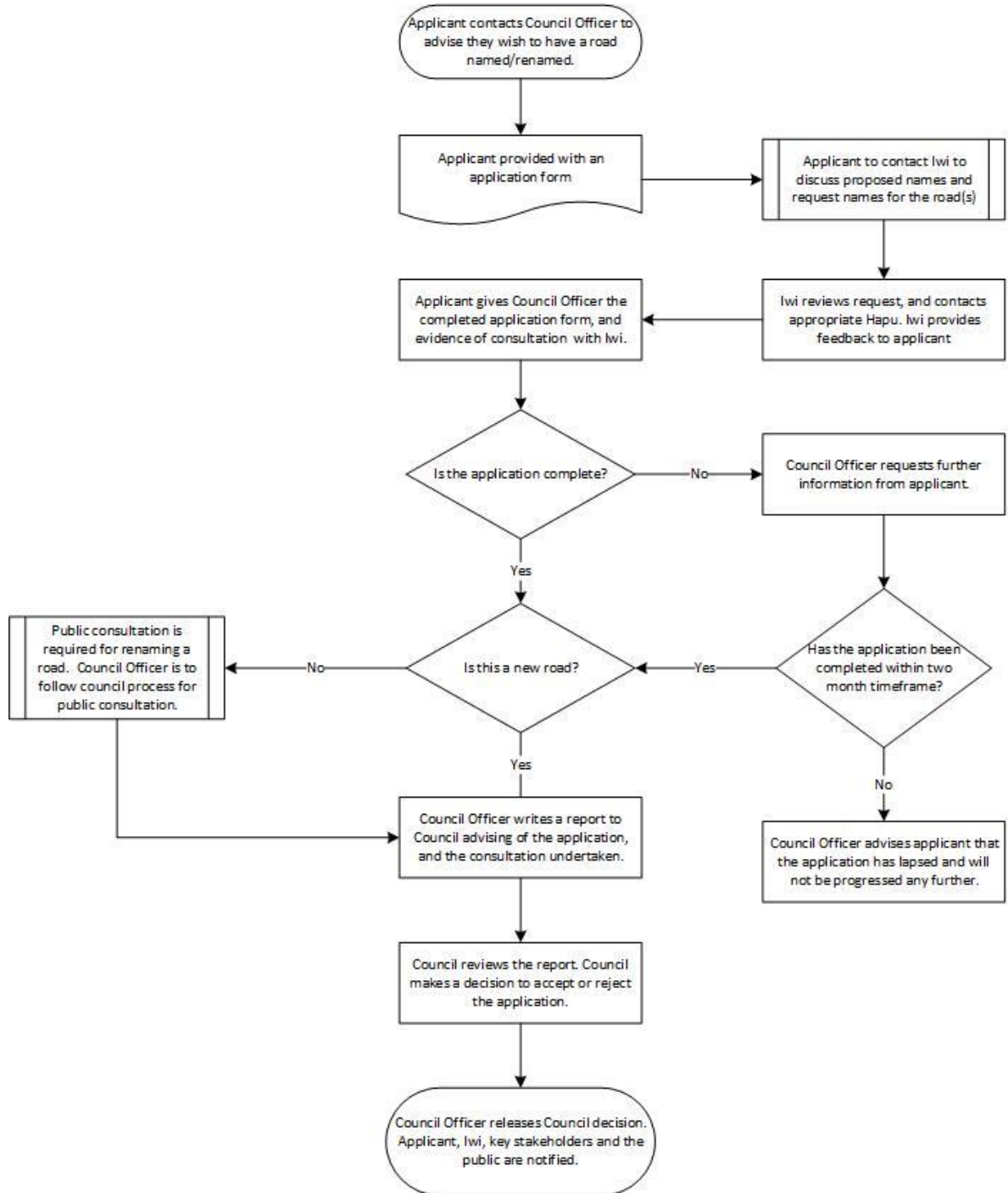
The use of 'Te' before 'Ara' is not essential unless the street is being named for a person or thing in which 'Te' is an integral part, for example 'Te Rauparaha'.

'Ara' and 'Te Ara' should not be accompanied by any additional road types e.g.:

- (i) Ara Tai *not* Ara Tai Lane; and
- (ii) Te Ara Nui *not* Te Ara Nui Close.

Appendix Two: Naming or renaming of road application process

The following process outlines the steps required for the naming of roads in the district:



Note: Naming a road will be carried out in partnership with mana whenua and where necessary the Council will at all stages engage and seek assistance with the road naming process.

History of Policy

Action	Description	Version number	Decision number	Commencement
New	Adoption of new Road Naming Policy	v 1.0		08/08/2022
Reviewed				



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