

Numbering of Properties, Naming of Roads, Access Ways and Open Spaces



Department(s): Assets, Policy and Strategy
Corporate Strategy (Iwi Liaison)
Regulatory Planning

Policy Type: External Policy

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1. Introduction

The Council is responsible for the naming of roads and numbering of land and buildings, under section 319, 319A and 319B of the Local Government Act 1974.

Road names and property numbers are used by a wide array of users for the accurate and quick identification of properties including; emergency services, postal and delivery services, personal visitors, service deliveries such as power, telephone and water. It is essential that properties have a formal and unique address by which they can be identified.

This policy covers both the naming of access ways and the naming of roads to ensure there is consistency.

2. Objectives

- a. To ensure consistency in naming of roads and access ways in the district.
- b. To clarify the meaning of access ways and to provide clear rules for the naming of these.
- c. To ensure roads are named to reflect the identity of the local areas as well as ensuring ease of identification for the Council, emergency services and others.

3. Definitions

Developer	An individual or entity, which is making an application. This may include Council, a consent holder or the party developing the infrastructure including
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	but not limited to a Developer.
Council	Matamata-Piako District Council.
Culturally significant	Ancestral land, water, wahi tapu, valued flora and fauna, and other taonga significant to Mana Whenua.
Name	The word or name used to identify a road, open space or Council facility. Name excludes the road type (see definition: road types).
Open space	Includes all parks and reserves administered by Council. This includes Reserve As defined under s 2 of the Reserves Act 1977 and land owned by Council with a primary recreation function, not held under the Reserves Act 1977.
Access Ways	A single 'lot', right of way or a series of right-of-ways that will be occupied by a physical driveway, providing vehicle access to a minimum of six lots. This also includes common access lots, retirement village roads and common property within a Unit Development as defined under section 5 of the Unit Titles Act 2010.
Road	Road as defined in section 315 of the Local Government Act 1974, and any square and any public place intended for the use of the public generally.
Road types	Road types in accordance with The Australian/New Zealand Standard on Rural and urban addressing AS/NZS 4819:2011 (outlined in Schedule 1 below).

4. Application

The developer must submit their preferred name(s) plus two alternatives for each road or access way¹. A plan identifying all roads or access ways and each property number must be included in the proposal. All proposed roads or access ways to be named must be clearly labelled.

Developers must consider property numbers and road/open spaces names at the early stages of their resource consent application to ensure there are no delays to the process.

5. Property numbering

Property numbers for both public roads and access ways must adhere to the relevant New Zealand standards issued by LINZ. In general:

- a. Addresses on the left side of the road should be ordered by number, using odd numbers beginning with "1" at the start of the road/access way.

¹ Proposals must be submitted in writing to Council's Asset Manager – Strategy and Policy.



- b. Addresses on the right side should be ordered by number, using even numbers starting with “2”.
- c. When numbering a cul-de-sac, the same “odd on the left, evens on the right” approach should be used. Incremental numbering around the cul-de-sac should not be used.
- d. Rural numbering is based on the distance down the road. The distance in metres is divided by 10 and rounded to the nearest odd number (left side) or even number (right side).

6. Naming considerations

A proposal to name or rename a road, or an open space must include evidence that the name(s) reflect one or more of the following:

- a. The identity of the Matamata-Piako District and/or local identity.
- b. The historical significance of particular locations.
- c. The cultural significance of the area to Mana Whenua.
- d. People important in the history of an area.
- e. Events, people and places significant to a community or communities locally, nationally or internationally.
- f. Flora and Fauna significant or important to the history of an area.

7. Consultation with Mana Whenua

Prior to submitting a proposal applicants are to request Council staff² provide guidance as to the appropriate Mana Whenua of an area. Applicants are to provide each Mana Whenua group with at least 15 working days to identify if the area has cultural significance and provide feedback to the applicant.

The purpose of the feedback is to provide non-binding advice to the applicant as to how culturally significant an area is to Mana Whenua. The applicant must provide evidence that they have given Mana Whenua an opportunity to provide feedback in accordance with this section.

For the avoidance of doubt consultation requirements with Mana Whenua do not apply to private access ways.

² Council’s Corporate Strategy Team in their role as Iwi Liaison will provide the relevant contact details to Developers in consultation with Mana Whenua on request.



8. Criteria for all road and access way names

Any proposed road and access way names will preferably meet the following criteria:

- a. Not be duplicated in the Matamata-Piako District
- b. Preferably, be short (generally not longer than 12 characters).
- c. Be single words to avoid cartographic problems.
- d. Be easy to spell and pronounce.
- e. Not sound similar, or be similar in spelling, to an existing road name.
- f. Not include a preposition, e.g. Avenue of the Allies.
- g. Not be abbreviated or contain an abbreviation excepting that “St” can be used for “saint” and ‘Mt’ can be used for “mount”.
- h. Names must not include a numeral (e.g. 5 Oaks Drive) but can include a number as a word (e.g. Five Oaks Drive).
- i. Not be in poor taste or likely to cause offense.
- j. Not lead with ‘The’.
- k. The name ‘Lane’ cannot be used for a public road. “Lane” is for private access ways only.
- l. If more than one road or access way is being named, consideration must be given to the names sharing a common theme. Where there is an existing theme or grouping of names in an area, consideration should be given to new names having an appropriate association with existing names in the area.
- m. Road types must comply with Schedule 1

9. Renaming of roads

The name of an existing road or access way may only be changed if a clear benefit to the community can be demonstrated. Examples of this are the incorrect spelling of a name, eliminating duplication in spelling or sound, preventing confusion arising from major changes to road layout or to make geographical corrections

10. Private Access Ways

For the naming of an access way, the following rules also apply:

- a. The name chosen for an access way must be a ‘Lane’ (e.g. Oaks Lane)



- b. If the access way currently services other existing properties then the property owners must be consulted and evidence of this consultation provided to Council.
- c. The private access way must not be vested in Council
- d. The access way must service a minimum of six lots.
- e. The numbering of the street where the access way is created must not be altered with the exception of the lot being subdivided in its entirety.
- f. The numbering of the lots within the subdivision that will be serviced by the access way must follow Council's existing numbering system.
- g. Council is not responsible for any external agencies refusal to acknowledge the access way name.
- h. Council's refuse collection service will only collect from the road (not up the access way).
- i. Signage displaying the name must be within the boundaries of the access way or as agreed on private property created by the subdivision. This signage must be in reverse colours to that used by the public street name system. Supplementary signage must be fixed to the access way name blade stating that the access way is 'Private Access' and 'No Exit'.
- j. Council will not be responsible for any costs associated with the construction and maintenance of the access way or any related signage.

11. Open spaces

For the naming of an open space, the following rules also apply:

- a. Any naming or renaming of open spaces must consider the obligations set out in Part 6 of the Local Government Act 2002.
- b. Reserves must be named or renamed by resolution of Council and in accordance with the Reserves Act 1977.
- c. The Naming of Reserves should also follow the policies as outlined in the General Policies Reserve Management Plan 2019 (see 11.11 of the GPRMP) or any subsequent replacement policies. The naming of open spaces (those that are not reserves) should use the General Policies RMP criteria as a guideline when naming an open space.



12. Decisions on names

Subject to LINZ approval, the final decision on road, access way and open spaces names rests with Council. Council may, at its sole discretion, delegate this decision making function to another body or member of staff.³

13. Relevant Legislation

Matamata-Piako District Council is responsible for the naming of roads under the Local Government Act 1974 Section 319.

Where a reserve is vested in Council, the Minister of Conservation or Council may specify or change the name of a reserve by notice in the Gazette (Section 16(10) Reserves Act 1977).

14. Related Policies, Strategies or Guidelines

This Policy complies with The Australian/New Zealand Standard on Rural and urban addressing AS/NZS 4819:2011.

15. Audience

- a. Council
- b. Council staff
- c. Developers
- d. Mana Whenua
- e. The community

16. Measurement and Review

This policy will be reviewed yearly by the Asset Manager – Strategy and Policy.

³ Delegations will be made by Council resolution and recorded in Council's delegations register.



Schedule 1

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 sides.			√
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.	√		
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)	√	√	√
Loop	Loop	Roadway that diverges from and rejoins 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. In general rural roads should be called road.	√		
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 where paved and 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.			√
View	View	A road with a view	√	√	
Walk	Walk	Thoroughfare for pedestrians			√
Way	Way	Short enclosed roadway. (reserved exclusively for non-public roads)		√	
Wharf	Whrf	A roadway on a wharf or pier.	√	√	√

