

Title	Geographical Naming
Policy Number (Governance Purpose)	



Policy Type

Council

Policy Purpose

Upon land being subdivided, it is common for developers to present a 'theme' for road and reserve names to be applied within the subdivision.

The Geographic Names Committee (GNC) at Landgate is the authority responsible for managing the naming of geographical features, administrative boundaries, localities and roads and for the maintenance of the State's Gazetteer, GEONOMA and nomenclature database. Proposals are also required to be endorsed by the City, prior to being recommended to the GNC.

This Position Statement references the GNC Principles, Guidelines and Procedures document, as well as Part 2 (Naming of Parks and Reserves) of the Land Administration Act 1997. It provides guidelines for the naming of roads and reserves (including ovals, pavilions, playgrounds etc) which exist throughout the City.

Policy Statement

The objective of this policy is to detail the City's process in relation to the naming of roads and reserves.

- (1) Developers of new subdivisions shall advise the City of their preference on names for new roads and reserves within subdivisions prior to lodgement of clearance of subdivision.
- (2) The names applied to roads and reserves within the City shall be in accordance with the *Geographic Names Committee. Policies and Standards for Geographical Naming in Western Australia*.
- (3) Priority will be given to the naming of reserves after an adjacent road or feature in order to maximise the identification of that reserve with an area. The road type is not to be included as part of the name.
- (4) Reserves comprising several different pieces of land, but in effect functioning as a single entity, will be given a single name as deemed appropriate.
- (5) Names that commemorate, or may be construed to commemorate, living persons will not be considered for road or reserve naming.
- (6) Proposals to name reserves other than after an adjacent road or feature, should be based upon the following themes:
 - a) Names from Aboriginal languages;

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- b) Names of pioneers who were relevant to the area;
 - c) Names of persons who died during war service; and
 - d) Names associated with historical events connected with the immediate area.
- (7) All reserve names must fulfil the prerequisite tests provided in the GNC guidelines and this position statement, and include evidence of community support. Community support may be ascertained through the following measures:
- a) Advertising proposals in local papers, inviting comments;
 - b) Advertising proposals in local libraries;
 - c) Erecting signs on the reserve, advising of the proposed name;
 - d) Advising residents in the area surrounding the reserve of the proposed name; and
 - e) Advising local resident associations of proposed names and requesting their comments.
- (8) For the naming of reserves after personal names, the person being honoured by the naming should have either had a direct long-term association within the area, or have made a significant contribution to the area of the proposed reserve, or the State generally. Association or contribution can include:
- a) Direct and long-term association with the location of the reserve and made a significant contribution to the area;
 - b) An individual with an outstanding national or international reputation which has a direct association with the area in which the reserve is located;
 - c) Voluntary service to a community group or organisation;
 - d) Given names may be included as part of the naming proposal, and given and surname combinations are acceptable; and
 - e) Death and former ownership of land are not acceptable reasons for proposing a name, and as such must fulfil the prerequisite tests provided in this position statement.
- (9) The following are not required to be named:
- a) Drainage sumps;
 - b) Access ways; and
 - c) Parking areas.
- (10) Future Unnamed Reserves
- a) Upon creation of a reserve, the City will submit a proposed name for any reserve in accordance with (3) above; and
 - b) If a proposed name is received prior to receipt of the above advice, the City will assess the name in accordance with the requirements of this position statement.
- (11) Naming of structures on the City's reserves
- a) Components of reserves (e.g. pavilions, ovals, gardens, etc) may be named in honour of living or deceased community members who have contributed towards the establishment of the particular feature or towards the community in general;

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- b) The City may call for nominations from the community for such naming. These nominations will be reported to Council for consideration;
- c) Nominations should be considered in conjunction with the following selection criteria:
 - i. length of active service within Council or the community;
 - ii. association with the facility or the reserve on which the facility is located;
 - iii. association with the location, or suburb, in which the reserve is located;
 - iv. significance of the facility is duly recognised in proportion to service given.
- d) The approval of the Minister is not required for such names when the overall reserve has already been named. Landgate will be informed of the name if it is to be included on maps.

(12) Renaming of Reserves

- a) Names chosen for reserves are expected to be permanent, and renaming is discouraged. If renaming is proposed because of some exceptional circumstance, this position statement still applies;
- b) Evidence of substantial community support for a change of name must be provided; and
- c) Proposals to rename a reserve normally requires the support of the City, however the Minister is the final authority on such matters.

(13) As required by the GNC policies and standards, road names should be appropriate to the physical, historical or cultural character of the area. Preference will be given to the surrounding theme of the area. The City promotes the use of names that reference:

- a) Flora or fauna native to the area – example:
Trees and birds of the area are frequently used to establish a theme for a neighbourhood – the streets of Yangebup immediately west of North Lake Road are named after a species of local birds (Osprey, Lapwing, Curlew and so on).
- b) Indigenous names – feature or descriptive – example:
Walliabup is the original name for Bibra Lake, *Yorga Mar* means off shore breeze, and *Beeliar* meaning river.
- c) Historical events connected with the area – example:
Emplacement Crescent is named for the large gun emplacements that once dominated the skyline there. Newmarket, Sandown and Flemington are names that figure in historical maps of North Coogee and refer to the sport of horse racing that was so popular along this beach in the late 19th to mid-20th century.
- d) Early explorers or pioneers – example:
Manning Park is named for the Manning family, *Wellard Street* named for Manning's business associate who helped him pioneer the local cattle import industry in the area where these place names persist.
- e) Serving members who died during war service

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- (14) Where indigenous names are proposed, the City will consult with City of Cockburn’s Aboriginal Reference Group and will provide feedback to the applicant.
- (15) The origin of each name should be clearly stated within applications and subsequently the City will record these details for future reference.
- (16) Upon approval by GNC, a poppy symbol is to be added by the City to road fingerboard signs within the district where the roads have been named after a local person, family or other related war or peace keeping activity or commemorative event

Strategic Link:	Public Open Space Strategy, Land Management Strategy, Community and Recreation Sports Plan
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