

Road, Locality and Feature Naming Policy



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Lifestyle Capital of Victoria

1. Policy statement

Council, as a Naming Authority under the *Naming Rules for places in Victoria 2016*, is responsible for geographic place names within its municipality, with the exception of geographic places of regional, state or national significant and water ways.

Council will preserve the heritage and identity of its City's localities and wherever possible, will link the name to the place through the use of the following 'naming themes':

- Location (including locality and road names);
- Aboriginal heritage and language;
- Prior uses of the land and the people associated with it;
- Local flora and fauna;
- Significant contributors to the community who are deceased;
- Former veteran personnel who are deceased;
- Notable residents who are deceased;
- Social and historical events;
- Historical exploration and settlement; and
- Recognition of cultural diversity

2. Reason for Policy

To provide a consistent approach for the naming of places, ensuring that any naming decision is made in the best interests of the community.

3. Scope

This Policy relates to all publicly owned features, localities and public roads within the Frankston municipality for which Council is determined to be a naming authority.

Victorian Government authorities such as Parks Victoria, Vic Roads and the Department of Education are determined to be naming authorities for public features or roads that they own or maintain.

All privately owned geographic features and roads need to be named and recorded in VICNAMES. These names must comply with the same principles as detailed in the *Naming rules for places in Victoria 2016*.

Council will work collaboratively with developers to create a complaint name for roads within new subdivisions, however it's the responsibility of the developer to ensure names are compliant with the *Naming rules for places in Victoria 2016* and to forward a proposed name to the Office of Geographic Names. Council can provide guidance to developers with the process.

Council is expected to record new or renamed features, localities and roads. It is not expected that a Council registers or records existing names even when they are not listed on VICNAMES.

The Governance Unit will be responsible for all road naming or alterations to existing road names as well as feature and locality names.

This Policy will operate independently of Council's Public Commemorative and Memorial Policy.

4. Authorisation

This Policy is managed by the Governance and Information Department, and is approved by Frankston City's Mayor and Council's Chief Executive Officer (CEO):



Mayor, Frankston City



CEO, Frankston City Council

in accordance with Frankston City Council resolution at its Ordinary Council meeting of 23 September 2019.

5. Revision date

This Policy will be reviewed and presented to Council no later than June 2025 or earlier as deemed necessary by Council.

6. Principles

Council recognises the importance of community consultation in the naming of places. The adopted Policy includes all statutory requirements, including the requirement for naming of localities, important public features, major roads and renaming proposals to be determined by Council.

The following Principles, as outlined in the *Naming rules for places Victoria 2016*, must be used in conjunction with the relevant statutory requirements relating to the naming of roads, features and localities:

- Ensuring public safety *must not risk public and operational safety for emergency response, or cause confusion for transport, communication and mail services*
- Recognising the public interest *long term benefits to the community*
- Linking the name to the place *should be relevant to the local area*
- Ensuring names are not duplicated *should not have similar spelling or pronunciation*
- Names must not be discriminatory *should not cause offence on the basis of race, ethnicity, religion, disability, sexuality or gender*

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- Recognition and use of Aboriginal languages in naming *agreement from Traditional Owner group(s)*
- Dual names *only applies to topographical features such as islands, mountains, mountain ranges and rivers*
- Using commemorative names *a name that commemorates an event, person or place. Names of persons still living should be avoided and preference is made to surname only*
- Using commercial and business names *cannot name places after commercial businesses, trade names and non-profit organisations*
- Language names *standard English or a recognised Aboriginal Indigenous language to the area of the feature*
- Directional names to be avoided *cardinal directions i.e. north, south, east, west are to be avoided*
- Assigning extent to a road, feature or locality *must clearly define the area and/or extent to which the name will apply*

These principles are designed to ensure no ambiguity, confusion, errors or discrimination are caused by the naming, renaming or boundary change process.

7. Roles and responsibilities

The naming rules allow for naming to occur by delegation of authority which is outlined below:

- Naming of localities, important public features, major roads and renaming proposals are to be managed by the Governance Unit and determined by Council at an Ordinary Meeting; and
- Naming of private roads are managed by developers and listed on the plans of subdivision, which are reviewed by the Planning and Environment department.

8. Policy non-compliance

Primarily, the naming of geographic places is governed by the Geographic Place Names Act 1998 and Naming Rules for places in Victoria 2016.

Council has an obligation to ensure that appropriate naming is applied to a road, locality or feature to minimise the risk for emergency services and/or services i.e. mail.

Failure to comply with the Naming Rules for places in Victoria 2016 may result in a risk to public safety and for emergency services in particular being able to respond to a dispatch for assistance.

9. Related documents

- Geographic Place Names Act 1998
- Naming rules for places in Victoria 2016
- Local Government Act 1989 (Section 206 and Schedule 10)
- Planning and Environment Act 1987
- Road, Locality and Feature Naming Protocol

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10. Implementation of the Policy

New naming recommendations will be assessed by Council's Governance Unit in conjunction with representatives from Commercial Services, Business and Information Technology, Financial and Corporate Planning, Engineering Services and Facilities Department.

11. Definitions

Council:	means Frankston City Council
Feature:	means mountains, watercourses, buildings, structures, parks and reserves
Naming Authority:	means municipal councils, government departments or authorities and private organisations
Place:	means any geographic place or building that is or is likely to be of public or historical interest and includes but is not restricted to suburbs, townships, neighbourhoods (not officially recognised for addressing purposes), reserves, parks, public open space, streets, roads, bridges, other road features, public facilities and buildings, rivers, streams, creeks and other water ways.
Policy:	means the Road, Locality and Feature Naming Policy
Road:	means any public or private land-based thoroughfare or course navigable by vehicle or foot that can be used for assigning addresses or allowing access between points or to a feature.
Suburb:	means a locality and the boundary officially recognised for addressing purposes
VICNAMES:	means a register that contains all registered and recorded place names in Victoria

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