

	<b>COUNCIL POLICY</b>	
	<b>Parks and Reserves Naming Council Policy</b>	
	Policy Number	CP090
	Directorate	Infrastructure Services
	Owner	Ken Diehm, Chief Executive Officer
	Last Approved	22/11/2023
	Review Due	22/11/2026

## 1. PURPOSE

This Policy outlines the principles by which Fraser Coast Regional Council names parks, reserves, wetlands, and gazetted foreshores, ensuring that a consistent, fair, and equitable approach is followed.

## 2. SCOPE

This Policy applies to the naming and renaming of Council controlled parks, reserves (including sports fields/grounds) and gazetted foreshores, and any Council assets (e.g. buildings, grandstands) contained thereon.

This Policy does not apply to commercial naming rights/sponsorship, roads, marine parks, national parks, conservation areas, nature refuges, or any other land or assets that is/are not controlled by Council.

## 3. HEAD OF POWER

*Local Government Act 2009*

## 4. DEFINITIONS

**Commemorative naming** - where a park or asset is named after a person, family, organisation, or cultural feature in accordance with Sections 5.2 and 5.3 of the policy.

**Default naming** – where a park or asset is named after a nearby feature, region, suburb, or street in accordance with Section 5.1 of the policy.

**Park Classification System** - The Park Strategy 2041 defines Council’s park classification system. Parks and reserves are classified by function (the primary use of the park), hierarchy (the level of the park) and setting (main characteristics surrounding the park). Attachment A shows the functions and hierarchies that are applicable to this policy.

## 5. POLICY STATEMENT

### 5.1. Naming hierarchy

Parks and reserves will generally be named after the region, district, suburb, or road in which they are located, or a nearby feature of the park or its surrounds.

Parks and reserves are grouped in accordance with the parks classification system (Attachment A), and each classification is named in accordance with Table 1, below:

**Table 1 – Naming convention for parks/reserves according to park classification**

Park Function	Park Hierarchy	Naming convention
Sports Park	Regional, District, Specialised	Nearby feature, region, or district
Recreation Park	Regional, District, Connecting Corridor	Nearby feature, suburb, or street
Recreation Park	Local, Civic, Amenity	Street in which the park is located
Environmental Parks	Conservation, Bushland, Connecting Corridor, Coastal	Nearby feature or suburb
Environmental Park	Nature	Street in which the park is located
Constrained Parks	Utility or Drainage	Nearby feature, suburb, or street
Assets within a park	(Not applicable)	Nearby feature, region, or district.

Council will consider commemorative naming suggestions from the community in accordance with this Policy.

## 5.2. General principles of names

### 5.2.1. Language

Names should be easy to recognise, spell and pronounce. In the case of Indigenous languages, it is accepted that a traditional name which might appear at first to be complex will, over time, become familiar and easy to use within the community.

Names should be no longer than 50 characters, and preferably three words or less.

Only characters from the standard alphabet can be included (i.e. no special characters, diacritical marks, or punctuation marks). Possessive apostrophes should be removed (e.g. 'Grahams Creek' not 'Graham's Creek '), but apostrophes that are part of a personal name (e.g. 'O'Connor') can be retained. Hyphens should be replaced by spaces.

Numbers should be spelled out (e.g. 'Seventeen Seventy' not '1770').

Names should not begin with 'The' unless there are strong historical reasons for doing so.

Abbreviations, initials, or acronyms are not permitted, except for the use of 'St' for 'Saint'.

### 5.2.2. Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander names

Council supports the preservation, recovery, and revival of the First Nations language. Names should be local to the area and chosen in consultation with the First Nations community where there is a strong cultural or historical connection.

### 5.2.3. Discrimination

Names must not be offensive, racist, derogatory, or demeaning.

### 5.2.4. Commercial names

Names that may be construed as advertising a commercial or industrial enterprise must not be used, except as part of a temporary sponsorship arrangement. Commercial names no longer in use that promote the heritage of an area are acceptable.

#### **5.2.5. Duplication**

New place names may be duplicated, provided there is no duplication of the name within the local government area or adjoining local government areas. However, duplication should be avoided wherever possible.

For the avoidance of doubt, where there are multiple parks on the same road, the parks must have unique names.

### **5.3. Commemorative names**

From time-to-time Council receives requests to name parks and assets after a person, a family, or an organisation.

Because so naming a park or asset is a perpetual honour, Council must ensure that in each case the action is appropriate. Whilst persons should ordinarily be recognised in memoriam, Council may deem the adoption of a personal name appropriate during their lifetime in exceptional circumstances.

Council must ensure that the person, family, or organisation:

- (a) has contributed significantly to the development of the immediate locality or greater region; and/or*
- (b) has demonstrated outstanding levels of civic service; and*
- (c) has widespread community support; and*
- (d) is of good repute and not likely to be the subject of controversy.*

As well as complying with the general principles at 5.2, above, commemorative naming applications will be assessed in accordance with the Parks and Reserves Naming Procedure.

#### **5.3.1. Community engagement and consultation**

All proposals for naming requested by the community or commemoratively will undergo appropriate community consultation in accordance with Council's 'Community Engagement' policy.

Council will determine whether a request will be approved, taking into consideration the outcomes of any community consultation. Council's decision will then be reported to the community and submitters.

Where Council approves a request to have a park or asset named after a person, a standard park naming sign will be installed in accordance with the function and hierarchy of the park.

### **5.4. Renaming**

Names are intended to be enduring and should only be changed where there are sound reasons. Renaming must have substantial community support, and will be considered where:

- the current name is not in accordance with this policy, and/or
- a wrong or inappropriate name has been used, and/or
- the spelling of the name is incorrect (unless the current spelling has been in use for an extended period of time), and/or
- a non-Aboriginal name is currently used and a new name sourced from Aboriginal communities is proposed, and/or
- local Aboriginal community members object to the use of a name that has been sourced from an Aboriginal language, and/or
- it is proposed to amalgamate, including through re-categorisation, two or more adjacent parks (that is, apply an existing park name to an adjoining park and discontinue use of name of the park subsumed), and/or
- the person after whom the park has been commemorated is no longer considered to be of good character, and/or
- the current name is being confused with a similar feature in the region.

### 5.5. Roles and responsibilities

The table below outlines who may request and approve applications to name and re-name parks and assets under this Policy.

Application	Requestor	Assessor(s)	Approver
Default naming of new or unnamed park/asset	Council	Executive Manager Open Space and Environment or delegate	Executive Manager Open Space and Environment or delegate
Renaming of park/asset	Council or Community	Councillor(s) and Executive Manager Open Space and Environment	Council
Commemorative naming of park/asset	Council or Community	Councillor(s) and Executive Manager Open Space and Environment	Council

## 6. ASSOCIATED DOCUMENTS

'Principles for the Consistent Use of Place Names', Intergovernmental Committee on Surveying and Mapping, Commonwealth of Australia, October 2016,  
[www.icsm.gov.au/publications/principles-consistent-use-place-names](http://www.icsm.gov.au/publications/principles-consistent-use-place-names)

'Community Engagement Policy', Fraser Coast Regional Council,  
[www.frasercoast.qld.gov.au/downloads/file/740/community-engagement-council-policy](http://www.frasercoast.qld.gov.au/downloads/file/740/community-engagement-council-policy) (EDOCS #1896552)

## 7. REVIEW

This Policy will be reviewed when related legislation/documents are amended or replaced, other circumstances as determined from time to time by Council or at intervals of no more than three years.

## Attachments

### Attachment A - Park Classification System - functions and hierarchies

Park Classification	Hierarchy
Sport	Regional
	District
	Specialised
Recreation	Regional
	District
	Local
	Connecting corridor
	Civic
	Amenity
Environmental	Conservation
	Bushland
	Nature
	Connecting corridor
	Coastal
Constrained	Utility
	Drainage

### Version Control

Version Number	Key Changes	Approval Authority	Approval Date	Document Number
1	New Policy – Management		4/11/2013	
2A	Updates to Policy – Upgrade to Council Policy	Council	22/11/2023	4578457