

Frequently Asked Questions – Naming of Roads Policy Review

Last updated – Monday 1 November 2021

Which policy is being reviewed?

The ***Naming of Roads, Open Spaces and Council Facilities Policy*** is currently under review. This policy sets out the process and requirements that must be followed by the public and Council and outlines how names for roads, open spaces such as parks and Council facilities are decided.

Why are we reviewing the policy and why now?

Council is required to review policies every three years. This policy was last reviewed in 2016 and the current review commenced in September 2019 but was paused in 2020 while the He Pou Manawa Ora: Pillars of Wellbeing Strategy was developed by Council.

What does this review involve?

In this policy review, we are looking to make changes to three main areas:

- CHANGE A - Policy principles to align with our He Pou Manawa Ora : Pillars of Wellbeing strategy
- CHANGE B - Timing of consultation with mana whenua, and the type of information requested.
- CHANGE C - The number of names a developer proposes on a new road application form.

Policy formatting changes are part of this review process to make the policy clear and easier to understand. The proposed policy has been updated to reflect National Standards for road names in New Zealand.

What's NOT changing?

During this policy review, we're not proposing any changes to:

- Council's process to rename an existing road
- how Council's open spaces and facilities are named
- how the final decision is made when naming a new road

Will any existing roads be renamed as part of this review?

No, we're not consulting on the renaming of any existing roads in this review process. The process to rename a road is set out in this policy but no changes have been proposed for those processes.

How does Council decide on a new road name?

The policy outlines Council administrative process that must be followed by staff to follow when an application is received from a developer. Each road naming application must explain and provide evidence that the proposed names reflect one or more of the following:

- The identity of Hamilton and/or local identity.
- The historical significance of the location.
- The cultural significance of the area to mana whenua.
- People important in the history of an area.
- Events, people and places significant to a community or communities locally, nationally or internationally.
- Flora and fauna significant or important to the history of an area.

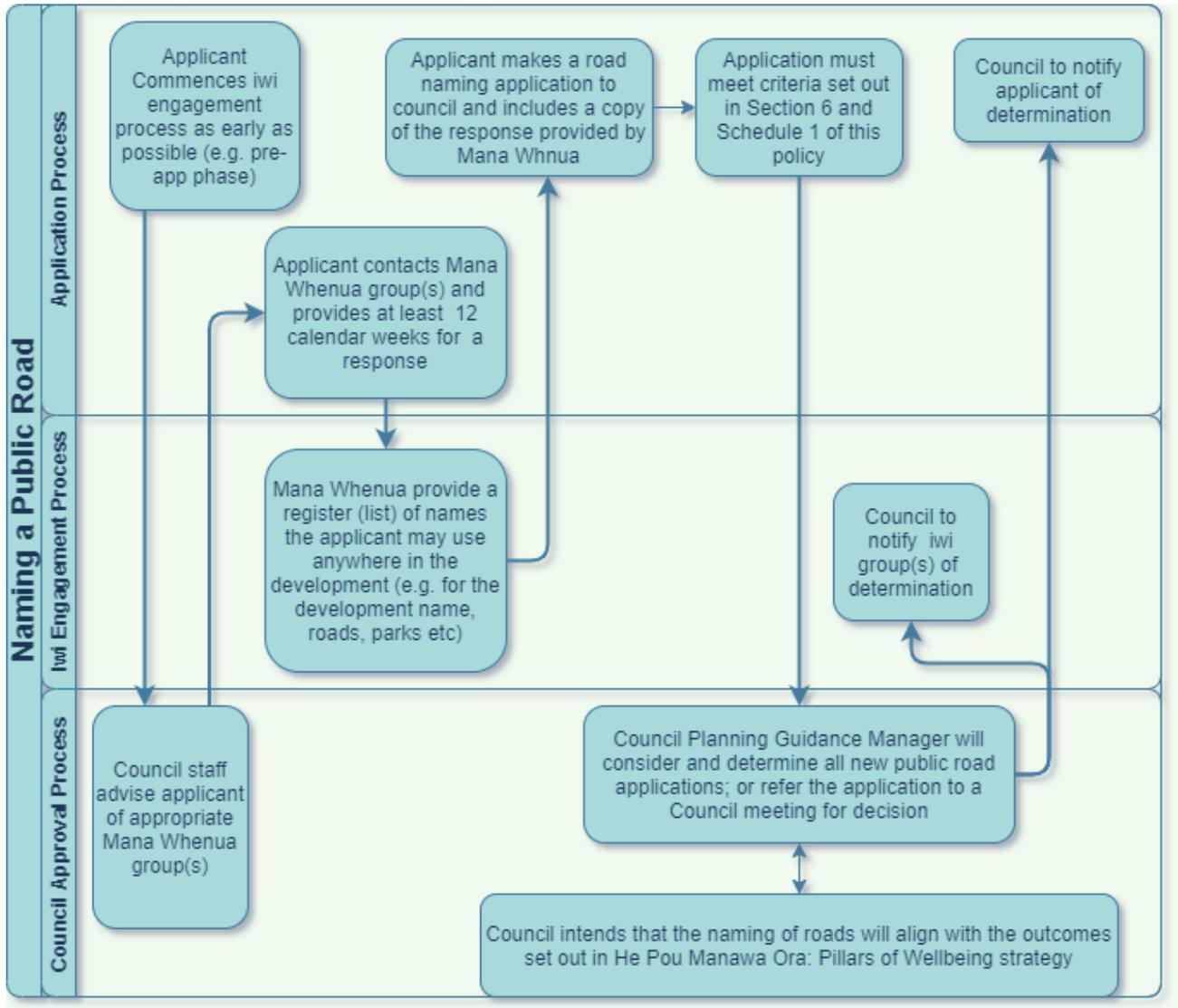
What is ‘mana whenua’?

In the proposed policy, mana whenua is defined as to the indigenous people (Maaori) who have historic and territorial rights over the land (subject to subdivision or resource consent), including but not limited, to [Te Haa o te whenua o Kirikiriroa](#) , [Waikato-Tainui](#), local iwi (tribal) and hapuu (family) groups.

Council staff can help developers to identify and connect with mana whenua for their development.

How does the proposed new road naming process work?

We’re proposing that the new road naming process will be as follows:



How does the process of renaming a road work?

This policy sets out the process and criteria for renaming of roads and an overview is provided below.

