

LOCAL GEOGRAPHICAL NAMING POLICY

Introduction

Section 155(1)(a) of the Constitution states that a Category B municipality, such as Prince Albert, has exclusive executive and legislative authority to administer issues pertaining to "public places" in its area of jurisdiction.

All matters concerning the naming of public places vest in the Municipality. Therefore any developer, town planner or agent who wishes to apply for a new township or street or facility name, must apply to the Municipality.

Who may apply / nominate a name change or name allocation

All residents within the municipal jurisdiction may apply / nominate a name change or allocation for public places, including streets, public municipal buildings or township areas.

The nomination proposed by a resident residing in the affected street or township, will carry 60% more weight than people outside the area.

How to apply

Any application for a township zone name must include the following:

- Details of the applicant
- Sufficient information about the proposed name (origin, historical background, meaning, language, pronunciation, etc)
- Motivation of proposal

Procedure

- (i) Council will appoint a nomination committee to manage the public participation process for gathering proposals.
- (ii) The Nomination Committee will receive all nominations and will compile a report on the proposals for consideration by Council.
- (iii) A public notice inviting proposals for a name change will be issued by the Municipality.
- (iv) Public meetings will be held within the respective areas where the Nomination Committee, supported by Administration, will receive nominations.
- (v) If no nominations is received, Council will propose their own nominations and communicate said nominations to the respective ward committees for input.
- (vi) In case of (v) above, the respective ward councillors will compile a report to the Nomination Committee, who will then collate the reports and present an integrated report to Council.

- (vii) Council will consider the report of the Nomination Committee and publish their principle decision for a two-week (14 days) period for any motivated objections.
- (viii) The Nomination Committee will receive the objections, consider said objections and provide a report to Council for final consideration.
- (ix) Council will decide on the final name.
- (x) After approval by the Council, the Municipality must inform the Surveyor-General of said change

Criteria

- (i) The proposed name change will enhance the community's sense of ownership and assist in building the community and redefine society.
- (ii) Any member of the community may nominate a name change/ allocation.
- (iii) When the name of a person is used, the prominence of the street should be in proportion to the stature of the person. Consent from the person (if he/ she is still alive) or the family (if deceased) should be included in the motivating memorandum.
- (iv) All named streets must have a definite starting point and end.
- (v) Changes in direction or bends in a street are not regarded as starting points or ends of streets.
- (vi) No street name or name of a public immovable asset may be duplicated.
- (vii) Neighbourhood names may be duplicated within separate towns within the municipal jurisdiction.

Guidelines for name selection

- (1) The historical, social and cultural significance must be considered.
- (2) Proposed names should meet one of the following criteria:
 - Honour or commemorate noteworthy people associated with the Prince Albert Municipal area;
 - Commemorate local, provincial and national natural or international historical places or events and memories of cultural significance.
 - Strengthen the community's heritage and promote the character of the area;
 - Recognise the cultural diversity of the Prince Albert area;
- (3) Names should preferably have a South African character or connection.