

## Decision Note

**Title:** Revisions to Street Naming Policy

**Date Prepared:** June 11, 2025

**Report To:** Regular Meeting of Council

**Councillor and Role:** Mayor Danny Breen, Governance & Strategic Priorities

**Ward:** Choose an item.

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### Decision/Direction Required:

Seeking Council approval of revised Street Naming Policy.

### Discussion – Background and Current Status:

Following discussion with Council and direction from Legal and Senior Executive, it was determined that naming streets after people carries a number of risks:

- Problematic legacies.
- Political polarization.
- Disparity in representation/cultural marginalization.

To reduce these risks, the Street Naming Policy has been updated to remove the option to submit people names for addition to the City's Reserved Street Names Inventory. Going forward:

The City shall not approve any submission requesting a street be named after a person, regardless of whether that person is living or deceased. (See Section 3.2.c. of updated Policy).

Once approved, the City will no longer accept applications for streets to be named after a person. Submissions requesting a street be named after a person that were received prior to approval of the revisions will be processed as per the previous policy.

During the revision process, additional changes were made to the Policy to clarify purpose and responsibilities. In addition, all references to activities pertaining to Civic Addressing and Civic

Numbering were removed, as they detailed operational duties of the CIS Division and were deemed not appropriate for inclusion in the Policy.

**Key Considerations/Implications:**

1. Budget/Financial Implications: N/A

2. Partners or Interested Parties: Street Naming Committee; CIS Division

3. Is this a New Plan or Strategy: No

If yes, are there recommendations or actions that require progress reporting?

If yes, how will progress be reported? (e.g.: through the strategic plan, through Cascade, annual update to Council, etc.)

4. Alignment with Strategic Directions:

An Effective City: Ensure accountability and good governance through transparent and open decision making.

Choose an item.

5. Alignment with Adopted Plans: N/A

6. Accessibility and Inclusion: The Street Naming Committee will consult with the Inclusion Advisory Committee prior to adding names to the Reserved Street Names Inventory. The Policy revisions are expected to increase inclusivity by encouraging names that celebrate shared experiences, local geography, and cultural themes rather than specific individuals.

7. Legal or Policy Implications: Street Naming Policy and Procedures

8. Privacy Implications: The change in process will reduce the amount of personal information collected.

9. Engagement and Communications Considerations: N/A

10. Human Resource Implications: N/A

11. Procurement Implications: N/A

12. Information Technology Implications: N/A

13. Information Management Implications: N/A

14. Other Implications: N/A

**Recommendation:**

That Council approve the revised Street Naming Policy.

**Prepared by: Theresa Walsh, City Clerk**

**Approved by: Kevin Been, City Manager**