

**NAMING OF PARKS/RESERVES**

**Intent:** To establish a policy for the naming of Parks & Reserves throughout the Cairns Regional Council area.

**Scope:** This policy shall apply when considering the naming or renaming of all Parks & Reserves (including sporting fields) throughout the Council area.

**PROVISIONS**

**Naming of Council Parks/Reserves**

- Council will only consider the naming or renaming of a park or reserve upon receipt of a formal application in writing.
- A request to name or rename a park or reserve after a person must meet the “*park naming criteria (people)*” and other requirements outlined in this policy.
- The name must not identify a corporate, commercial or business entity. Charitable organisations may be permitted at Council’s discretion.
- Prior to submitting the proposed name to a Council meeting for determination, officers must undertake public consultation to ensure all residents, elected members and interested parties have had opportunity to comment on the proposed name.

**Park Naming Criteria (People)**

Where a request is made to name or rename a park or reserve after a person, the proponent must demonstrate that the person commemorated and the name chosen must meet the following requirements:

- The person must have lived within close proximity i.e.1-2 kms of the park or reserve for more than 20 years or once owned the land that the park or reserve is located on for more than 20 years.
- The person is of good repute and not likely to be the subject of controversy.

AND must satisfy one or more of the following criteria:

- The person was directly involved in, was instrumental in, or made a significant contribution to, the development of the land or area.
- The person was directly involved in a community, environmental or sporting group(s) associated with the land and made a significant contribution to that group(s) for a minimum of 20 years.
- The person achieved role-model status in the wider community or achieved national or international recognition.
- The person demonstrated outstanding levels of civic service for more than 20 years.
- The person donated significant property or funds for community benefit.
- Any other reason deemed significant or worthy by Council.

**Park Naming Categories**

Parks and Reserves may be named after one of the following categories:

- Geographic/natural features located nearby or flora and fauna endemic or native to the area, for example, Rainy Mountain Park, Smithfield.
- Events, moments or people of historic significance from the local area, for example, significant pioneering families, early settlers, military campaigns or events such as a solar eclipse.
- Names with local Indigenous cultural significance with a strong connection to the subject land, for example, names like Goomboora Park in Brinsmead, Jalarra Park in Stratford and Billy Jagar Environmental Reserve at Holloways Beach.
- Any other category, subject or topic deemed appropriate at the discretion of Council.

To ensure that a variety of names are provided for, the names of other parks and reserves in the area must be taken into consideration, including similar names that could cause confusion for users and emergency services. Council will try to ensure that a variety of names are provided for from each category. The intention of this is to make sure that parks are named from a variety of categories and are not restricted to a single category.

### **Acknowledgment of Traditional Custodians/Owners – Dual Naming**

Council recognises the value of our heritage in the development of a diverse cultural and community environment. This diversity includes the inherent association of Australia's Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples with this land.

To acknowledge this heritage, parks and reserves shall be named with both the approved name by Council and an appropriate Indigenous name allocated by the Traditional Aboriginal clan or language group in instances where the group or clan demonstrate cultural links and association to the specific location of the park or reserve. When Council receives a park naming request, Council will consult with Traditional Owners with respect to cultural links or association to the site. In instances where there is an Indigenous connection to the site, the Traditional Owners will be invited to choose an appropriate Indigenous name. During the public notification process both the proposed name and the Indigenous name will be advertised. The dual name will be recommended to Council for consideration and provided within the park or reserve if adopted by Council.

### **Park Renaming**

Park renaming is discouraged however a park or reserve may be renamed upon request if:

- the person/body/entity after which the park was named has been discredited or dishonoured
- there is very strong community desire (i.e. over 100 submissions) for a name change
- the name is duplicated elsewhere in the Council area
- it has been found that the information submitted regarding the naming of the park is factually incorrect
- the name is no longer appropriate in historical or geographical terms
- the name is no longer appropriate because it is likely to cause distress to members of the community
- any other reason deemed appropriate at Council's discretion.

Any proposal to rename a park or reserve must follow the procedure to name a park previously outlined in this policy.

◆◆◆◆◆

**This policy is to remain in force until otherwise determined by Council.**

**General Manager Responsible for Review:**

**Community, Sport and Cultural Services**

**ORIGINALLY ADOPTED: 28/06/2001**

**CURRENT ADOPTION: 16/08/2017**

**DUE FOR REVISION: 16/08/2021**

**REVOKED/SUPERSEDED:**



**John Andrejic  
Chief Executive Officer**