

City Policy C509B - Naming Development Areas, Parks, Municipal Facilities, Roads and Honorary Roads

Recommendation

That Urban Planning Committee recommend to City Council:

That the revised Naming Municipal Assets Policy C509C, as set out in Attachment 1 of the August 24, 2021, Urban Planning and Economy report CR_8389, be approved.

Previous Council/Committee Action

At the June 22/23, 2020, City Council meeting, the following motion was passed:

That Administration return to Council with an updated City Policy C509B Naming Development Areas, Parks, Municipal facilities, Roads and Honorary Roads to ensure focus and historical relevance on Indigenous place names in Edmonton and to also review the Naming Committee bylaw and other related policies to ensure consistency.

Executive Summary

Council Policy C509C replaces the Naming Development Areas, Parks, Municipal Facilities, Roads and Honorary Roads Policy C509B. The revised Council Policy C509C Naming Municipal Assets includes language providing direction on the focus and historical relevance of Indigenous place names, a renaming section, and updated policy formatting for better readability and clarity.

Report

The Naming Committee is a Council Committee made of seven primarily unaffiliated volunteer residents including a representative from Edmonton's Historical Board. The Naming Committee approves names for municipal assets based on naming applications submitted by Administration, community leagues, private developers, organizations, and the general public. The Naming Committee and its naming process are committed to the City Plan's guiding value which states that Edmontonians are all Treaty 6 people who acknowledge and celebrate diverse cultures and welcome perspectives and experiences from around the world.

Policy C509B Naming Development Areas, Parks, Municipal facilities, Roads and Honorary Roads provides direction to the Naming Committee on the criteria and principles to be considered when evaluating naming applications. The policy was adopted on May 12, 2015.

The Naming Committee reviewed Policy C509B as per Council Policy C575D Agencies, Boards, Committees and Commissions 2(d), which states that the mandate, objectives, role and membership of City Agencies must be periodically reviewed by City Council to ensure that the Agency remains effective throughout its life cycle.

The proposed Policy C509C has been revised to include enhanced language that reflects Edmontonians' community values of equity and inclusion with prioritization and focus on Indigenous place names. The revised Policy contains a new renaming section to provide guidance for future renaming applications to be considered by the Naming Committee. The Policy also required reformatting to ensure consistency with the new Corporate Policy Framework.

Engagement

The Naming Committee consulted with Administration's Indigenous Relations Office and Diversity and Inclusion Office to ensure the revised Policy changes are in alignment with the Indigenous Framework and The Art of Inclusion: Our Diversity & Inclusion Framework.

Policy Changes

1. The Policy Statement was modified to reflect Indigenous place names, partnerships with Indigenous communities, Indigenous histories, and Edmonton's diverse communities and their contributions.
2. Guiding Principles were modified to include language on wayfinding and that names must consider Emergency Response and Canada Post standards, policies and practices.
3. Naming Criteria was modified to ensure focus and reflect the traditional usage or ways of knowing of Indigenous people.
4. Naming Criteria were reordered to place priority on reflecting the heritage, cultural, ethnic or gender diversity of the community and the flora, fauna, geographical or topographical features of the local area.
5. Naming Policy C509C introduces a renaming section that provides guidance on the parameters for which renaming applications may be considered.

6. Park naming section enhanced to provide specific parameters on naming different levels of parks, plazas, trails, and other open space municipal assets.
7. Reformatting to ensure consistency with the new Corporate Policy Framework.

Attachments

1. Revised Council Policy C509C
2. Original Approved City Policy C509B

Others Reviewing this Report

- M. Persson, Chief Financial Officer and Deputy City Manager , Financial and Corporate Services
- C. Owen, Deputy City Manager, Communications and Engagement
- G. Cebryk, Deputy City Manager, City Operations
- A. Laughlin, Deputy City Manager, Integrated Infrastructure Services
- K. Armstrong, Deputy City Manager, Employee Services
- R. Smyth, Deputy City Manager, Citizen Services
- K. Fallis-Howell, Acting City Solicitor