

SOUTH WAIRARAPA DISTRICT COUNCIL

12 DECEMBER 2018

AGENDA ITEM C5

CORRECTION OF THE SPELLING OF TWO ROAD NAMES IN THE SOUTH WAIRARAPA DISTRICT

Purpose of Report

To seek approval from Council to correct the historical spelling of Pah Road, Greytown (to become Pā Road) and Hinakura Road, Martinborough (to become Hinekura Road).

Recommendations

Officers recommend that the Council:

1. *Receive the Correction of the Spelling of two Road Names in the South Wairarapa District Report.*
2. *Approves the correction of the names Pah Road (to Pā Road) and Hinakura Road (to Hinekura Road).*

1. Background

The South Wairarapa District Council is responsible for naming roads and rights of way serving more than four sites in the district.

A consistent and considered approach is needed when naming roads in the district.

Roads are named to ensure ease of identification for the Council, the public, and especially key service providers such as emergency response organisations (police / fire / ambulance), and postal and utility services.

The Council is empowered to name roads under Sections 319 and 319A of the Local Government Act of 1974 (LGA 1974).

The "Policy on Naming of Public Roads, Private Roads and Rights-of-Way" (the Policy) guides the road naming process.

The South Wairarapa Māori Standing Committee pointed out to Council Officers (18th June 2018) that Pah Road and Hinakura Road are incorrectly spelt and a request was made for these road names to be corrected.

Council officers investigated how this could proceed under the Policy, and noted that under this policy the approval of a “significant majority” of the residents along this road was required.

Liaising with the multitude of residents and owners along roads such as Hinakura Road or Pah Road to ascertain support of a spelling correction is considered to be an unnecessary level of consultation and would consume a significant amount of officer time.

Officers then sought Council approval of spelling corrections to road names to be made without consulting with residents. Council approved this at Council’s 24th October 2018 meeting (resolution DC2018/152).

2. Discussion

Pah Road is located to the East of the Greytown urban area beyond Papawai Road and is most notable as the location of the historically significant Papawai Marae.

The Māori language does not contain the word Pah and its use is a historical misspelling of the word Pā. This has been confirmed by the Māori Standing Committee.

Hinakura Road is located to the South East of the Martinborough urban area and terminates at the rural area named Hinekura.

The South Wairarapa Māori Standing Committee advises that the correct context and spelling of Hinakura is in fact Hinekura. Hine meaning daughter or young girl in Māori.

Amending the spelling of Hinakura Road to Hinekura Road would align the road name with the spelling of the place name Hinekura.

Should Council approve the spelling corrections, Council officers would notify residents of the road directly, the relevant community board, Land Information New Zealand, New Zealand Post, and emergency services of the spelling correction.

Officers would also arrange for the physical road signs to be replaced.

3. Conclusion

It is recommended that Council approves the correction of the spelling of Pah Road to become Pā Road and Hinakura Road to become Hinekura Road.

The change in road name will require an alteration of Council’s RAMM (Road Asset and Maintenance Management) database at an estimated cost of \$200 and a new road sign at an estimated cost of \$200 per sign.

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