



Memorials in Public Places

Council Policy Objective

To ensure that existing memorials are managed in an empathetic manner.

Council Policy Scope

This Policy recognises that the appropriate location for memorialisation of individuals is within the grounds of the two existing cemeteries within the district, East Rockingham Pioneer Cemetery or Rockingham Regional Memorial Park.

This Policy does not apply to commemorations for historical events or causes, which will be considered on a case-by-case basis.

This Policy does not apply to requests to name places or facilities for people who have made a significant contribution to the City of Rockingham.

Temporary roadside memorials are permitted for individuals who have died tragically on roads within the district.

Council Policy Statement

Existing Memorial Bench Plaques

All existing memorials on benches across the City are transitioned to a 25 year grant from the date of approval of this policy.

Any replacement of existing plaques will be subject to the same grant expiry date as the plaque it replaces. The original applicant(s) will be responsible for all costs associated with repair or replacement of the memorial plaque.

The City will be responsible for all costs associated with the repair, maintenance and replacement of the bench.

At the expiry of the grant, the memorial plaque will be removed and, where possible, returned to the first named original applicant or their nominated agent. The City will retain the right to retain the bench seat as a City asset.

Existing Plaques – Waikiki or Rockingham Beach Memorial Walls

All existing memorials on the memorial walls are transitioned to a 25 year grant from the date of approval of this policy. This will include any reserved (unused) spaces on these walls.

At the expiry of the grant, the memorial plaque will be removed and, where possible, returned to the first named original applicant or their nominated agent.

The original applicant(s) will be responsible for all costs associated with repair or replacement of the memorial plaque during the grant period. Any replacement plaques will be subject to the same grant expiry date as the plaque it replaces.

Memorials will be subject to the same level of maintenance as the wall to which it is attached. Any additional maintenance will be the responsibility of the applicant(s).

Applicants will retain the opportunity to add a second name to an existing plaque. The revised plaque will be subject to the same grant expiry date as the original plaque.

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Temporary Roadside Memorials

Temporary roadside memorials (cross only) are to be installed in accordance with the *City of Rockingham Memorial Specifications* and can only be provided for one individual. Where multiple lives are lost in a single accident, each life will be permitted to have individual roadside memorials co-located near the site of the accident.

Roadside memorials using a white cross will only be approved for a period up to 26 months from the date of the accident at which time the cross and all associated materials must be removed.

Approval process

Applications for a roadside memorial cross will be at no cost to the applicant but must be made in writing. If the application is from an organisation or person other than a family member of the deceased, a letter of permission from the deceased's family is required.

Approval of applications are at the discretion of the City when taking account the wishes of the family and friends of the deceased and nearby residents.

Roadside memorials will be placed as near as possible to the position requested by the applicant.

Works and Costs

Following approval of the application, installation may be carried out by the applicant.

All costs associated with installation of a roadside memorial cross are to be borne by the applicant.

Maintenance

The City does not undertake any maintenance on roadside memorial plaques.

The City will not be responsible for the replacement of any memorial plaques which are vandalised, damaged or stolen.

Memorial Removal

All existing memorials will have a finite life as follows

- Plaques on memorial walls and benches – 25 years
- Temporary roadside memorial cross – 26 months.
- Roadside memorial plaque – 25 years.

Council reserves the right to remove any memorial after these timeframes, with all attempts made to return the plaque to the first named original applicant or their nominated agent.

Should an installed memorial become disturbed through works by the City, the memorial shall be removed and reinstalled, if appropriate, in the same location or installed in another location nearby (all reasonable attempts will be made to contact the original applicant prior to works commencing).

Definitions

Memorial - a structure or asset that is placed for the purpose of remembrance of individuals or events.

Legislation

Cemeteries Act 1986

Local Government Act 1995

Local Government (Uniform Local Provisions) Regulations 1996 - Regulation 6: Public Places and Local Government Property Local Law 2018

Land Administration Act 1997

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Land Information Authority Regulations 2007 3 – Information prescribed as fundamental land information

Other Relevant Policies/ Key Documents

Policies and Standards for Geographical Naming in Western Australia.
City of Rockingham Memorial Specifications.

Responsible Division

Engineering and Parks Services

Review Date

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