

**CITY of ALBUQUERQUE
FIFTH COUNCIL**

COUNCIL BILL NO. 0-198

ENACTMENT NO. 99-1983

SPONSORED BY: Nadyne C. Bicknell
Thomas W. Hoover

ORDINANCE

GOVERNING THE NAMING AND CHANGING NAMES OF STREETS.

**BE IT ORDAINED BY THE COUNCIL, THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE
CITY OF ALBUQUERQUE:**

Section 1. METHOD OF NAMING. Streets shall be officially named
or renamed by:

A. A plat dedicating public right of way for an unnamed local
or collector street, or the continuation of a named principal or minor
arterial; or

B. Action renaming a street pursuant to Section 4 of this
ordinance; or

C. Adoption of a surveyed street line with name pursuant to
Article 8-8 R.O. 1974, the Future Street Line Ordinance; or

D. Adoption of a resolution by the City Council concerning
the name of a specific principal or minor arterial street.

Section 2. INTER-GOVERNMENTAL COOPERATION POLICY. The
City shall rule on every new or changed name of a street within its
planning and platting jurisdiction. However, the City shall abide by the
desires of more directly concerned local governments where it appears
unlikely that any of the street will ever be within the City of Albuquerque;
where a street is or clearly will be both within and outside the City of
Albuquerque, the City shall confer with other concerned local governments
and seek a mutually satisfactory name.

Section 3. POLICY ON NAMING NEW STREETS.

A. New Street Designations.

1. New principal and minor arterial streets, as defined

1 by the Long Range Major Street Plan, shall be designated "Boulevard".

2 2. New local and collector streets which run
3 essentially-north-south shall be designated "Drive" or "Street." New local
4 and collector streets which run essentially east-west shall be designated
5 "Road" or "Avenue." However, see exceptions in Paragraphs 3 and 4 below.

6 3. New local street cul-de-sacs may be designated
7 "Court" or "Place."

8 4. New local streets which circle back on themselves
9 may be designated "Circle."

10 5. In places where the appropriate street designation
11 according to this subsection is not clear, the City Engineer shall determine
12 the designation.

13 6. Private streets shall have a designation, but it shall
14 not be Boulevard, Drive, Street, Road, Avenue, Court, Place, or Circle.

15 B. New Street Names.

16 1. The name of a new street should be the name of an
17 existing, nearby street which is essentially in line with it, unless the City
18 Engineer finds that such name continuation would clearly not be helpful to
19 motorists searching for an address.

20 2. Where Paragraph 1 does not apply, the following are
21 basic City policies on public and private street naming:

22 a. Alphabetic sequences of street names are
23 desirable;

24 b. Groupings of names with similar content such
25 as New Mexico cities, trees' or women's names are desirable;

26 c. Names with double meanings are usually
27 undesirable;

28 d. Names which are difficult to spell or
29 pronounce are usually undesirable;

30 e. Names of over 13 letters and spaces are
31 usually unacceptable (this limit does not apply to the street designation and
32 quadrant);

33 f. Names already in use for streets in the area

covered by the Long Range Major Street Plan are unacceptable unless the existing street is essentially in line with the new street;

g. Names shall conform to alpha-numeric style standards established by the City Engineer;

h. The City will normally accept developer proposals for street names which are consistent with this ordinance, but the City reserves the right to name streets where the City finds that the developer's name proposals are not consistent with City policies and the public welfare.

Section 4. CHANGING NAMES OF STREETS.

A. Procedure.

1. Any person may apply to the City Engineer to change the name of a street segment which is within the City of Albuquerque. (Application to change the name of a street which is not in the City but is in its planning and platting jurisdiction should be to the County.)

2. The City Engineer shall mail letters to the owners of record of all lots adjacent to a street segment which is within the City and is proposed for name change, informing them of the nature of the proposed change and indicating how a person may file comments. At least 30 days shall be allowed for such comments before a decision is reached. Owner of record means the owner shown in the records of the County Assessor.

3. The City Engineer shall request interested City departments and other agencies, including private utilities and the U.S. Postal Service, to comment on the request.

4. The City Engineer shall make the decision as to local and collector streets in the following cases:

a. An application or petition is signed by all owners of record of property abutting the street segment in question; or

b. No person files a timely written objection to the name change.

5. In other cases involving local and collector streets,

the Planning Commission shall make the decision at a public hearing, after receiving a report from the Development Review Board.

6. In cases involving major or minor arterial streets, the City Council shall rule on the request.

7. Every person filing comments or receiving notification pursuant to A.2 of this section shall receive written notification of the decision.

8. In the event a proposed street name change is both within and outside the City, the City's decision shall not become final until the County rules, and in the event the County reaches a decision different than the City, the City decision shall not be final until 15 working days after notice of a reconsidered decision by the previous City decision maker.

9. Appeal of the City Engineer's decision is to the Planning Commission. Appeal of the Planning Commission's decision is to the City Council. Appeals shall be filed within 15 working days of the postmark of the letter giving notice of the decision.

B. Criteria.

1. A street name shall be changed only if the decision maker finds that there will be a public benefit which clearly outweighs the public confusion and cost which would be created by the name change.

2. Continuous major or minor arterial streets should have the same name throughout the urban area. However, the benefit of this clarity must be weighed against the confusion of changing addresses which are in use.

C. Fees. The Mayor shall set a fee schedule to cover reasonable administrative expenses based on approximate City costs of reviewing name change proposals, holding public meetings and hearings, and other expenses incidental to the processing of street name change proposals and appeals thereof; successful applicants may also be charged a fee to cover the cost of street sign replacement.

Section 9. Severability Clause. If any section, subsection, sentence, clause, word, or phrase of this ordinance is for any reason held to be

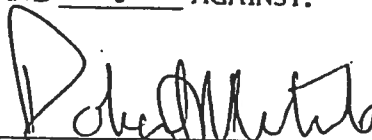
1 unconstitutional or otherwise invalid by any court of competent
2 jurisdiction, such decision shall not affect the validity of the remaining
3 portions of this ordinance. The Council, the governing body of the City of
4 Albuquerque, hereby declares that it would have passed this ordinance and
5 each section, subsection, sentence, clause, word, or phrase thereof
6 irrespective of any one or more sections, subsections, sentences, clauses,
7 words, or phrases being declared unconstitutional or otherwise invalid.

8 Section 10. Compiling Clause. This ordinance shall be incorporated
9 in and compiled as part of the Revised Ordinances of Albuquerque, 1974.

10 Section 11. Effective Date and Publication. This ordinance shall be
11 effective five days after publication in full.

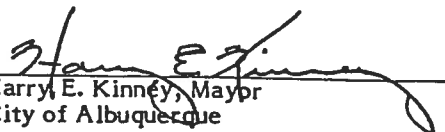
12 PASSED AND ADOPTED THIS 31st DAY OF OCTOBER, 1983.

13 BY A VOTE OF 9 FOR AND 0 AGAINST.

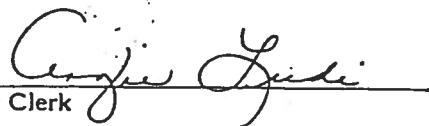
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16 Robert M. White, President
17 City Council

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20 APPROVED THIS 7th DAY OF November, 1983.

21 
22 Harry E. Kinney, Mayor
23 City of Albuquerque

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25 ATTEST:

26 
27 City Clerk
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