

STAFF REPORT

TO: Chairman and Members, Engineering Services Committee

FROM: Asset Information Officer, Lindsay Skinner

DATE: 01 September 2009

REFERENCE: RD3728

SUBJECT: **RURAL NAMING AND NUMBERING OF THE COASTAL HIGHWAY WHEN TRANSFERRED FROM THE NZ TRANSPORT AGENCY**

1. PURPOSE

The purpose of this report is to request the Engineering Services Committee to confirm road naming for The Coastal Highway/Stafford Drive once the Ruby Bay Bypass project has been completed.

2. BACKGROUND

The present definition of The Coastal Highway (State Highway 60) starts at Pea Viner corner, Appleby and finishes at the roundabout at High Street and Wharf Road, Motueka. Stafford Drive is separately named through the populated section of Ruby Bay. (See attached map).

3. AFFECTED PROPERTIES

A total of 220 addresses could be affected by the proposed change in road name and numbering:

Reference	Area	Number of addresses
A-B	Pea Viner corner to new turnoff near Dominion Road	47
B-C	New turnoff near Dominion Road to Stafford Drive/Aranui Road intersection	20
C-D	Stafford Drive/Aranui Road intersection to top of bluffs	82
D-E	Top of bluffs to where the present coastal highway will intersect with the bypass	60
E-F	Present coastal highway intersection with bypass to roundabout at High Street/Wharf Street, Motueka	15
		220

4. REASONS FOR CHANGE

Because the main highway from Richmond to Motueka will now include the new Ruby Bay Bypass and will be shortened by two kilometres, it seems inappropriate to continue with the old naming on the old highway. It is my opinion that the new road will take over being known as the "The Coastal Highway".

Roading file records state that Stafford Drive was numbered in 1991 and was named after WH Stafford, a nephew of the Rt. Hon. Sir Edward Stafford who purchased a Ruby Bay property off Edward Buxton in 1887. Mrs Stafford named the bay because of the small rubies she found on the beach so there is some significance in retaining this name.

5. HEALTH & SAFETY

When allocating road numbers they should reflect the distance from the start of the road, ie 100 = 1 km from the start and located on the right hand side of the road. This is very important for the emergency services such as police, fire and ambulance.

This complicates the issue as the new highway is shorter than the previous (by about 2 km) resulting in all new numbers from E-F referred to in the table above. The numbering from A-B would remain the same. There should be no numbers on the new bypass from B-E as this is a limited access road.

6. CONSULTATION

Council staff have consulted the NZTA Ruby Bay Bypass Project Manager, Andrew Adams. His understanding is that "Coastal Drive" was the mooted name from B-E via Ruby Bay. The plan for this is attached. Andrew also mentioned that the local iwi have indicated that they wish to propose a name for the new deviation section of the road. If the road from B-E had a separate name it should probably include the section from A-B and E-F for health and safety reasons. Council has not consulted with local iwi to date.

Also attached is a letter from the Coastal Initiative Group asking the section of road from B-E via C and D be known as the "Ruby Coast Scenic Drive".

7. OPTIONS

There are a number of options which have been investigated.

- 7.1 Do nothing, but name the new Ruby Bay Bypass.
- 7.2 Keep the name "The Coastal Highway" via the new Ruby Bay Bypass and renumber from E-F.
- 7.3 Rename the road from A-F via the new Ruby Bay Bypass (B-E) and renumber from E-F.
- 7.4 New name from B-C and extend Stafford Drive numbers from D-E.
- 7.5 New road name from B-E via C and D and renumber.
- 7.6 New road name and numbering from B-C, keep Stafford Drive from C with existing numbers and extend to D, new road name and numbering from D-E. Field inspection at point D showed there was a good location for a new road sign.

- 7.7 Keep it the same as 7.6 and 7.1 above but a sign post stating “Ruby Coast Scenic Route”. By naming this as a route instead of drive, the road naming and numbering is less confusing.

8. LEGAL PROCESS

Attached is the Tasman District Council “Road Name Change Policy”.

9. WAY FORWARD

Decide which option is the best way forward that will least affect as many residents as possible, bearing in mind the health and safety aspects as above.

Liaise with local iwi, community boards and possibly the schools, for feedback on road names if Council agree to the recommendations below.

Proceed with the name changing policy by way of the formal process and advertising.

10. RECOMMENDATION

- 10.1 **THAT** one name be given to the road from Pea Viner Corner (A) to the roundabout at High Street/Wharf Road, Motueka (F) via the new turnoff road near Dominion Road (B) to the intersection with the Ruby Bay Bypass (E) and that this be called “The Coastal Highway”. The numbering would stay the same except for the section from where the present coastal highway will intersect with the bypass (E) to the roundabout at High Street/Wharf Road, Motueka (F).
- 10.2 **THAT** a separate road name be given from the new turnoff near Dominion Road (B) to the Stafford Drive/Aranui Road intersection (C) with new numbers starting from the new turnoff off near Dominion Road (B).
- 10.3 **THAT** the section of road from Stafford Drive/Aranui Road intersection (C) be extended from Pine Hill Road to (D), top of the bluffs and that this road be known as Stafford Drive. All the numbers will remain the same except for two properties.
- 10.4 **THAT** the section of road from the Ruby Bay bluffs (D) to where the road intersects with the new bypass road (E) be renamed with new numbers starting from the bluffs.
- 10.5 **THAT** a sign be erected at both the new turnoff near Dominion Road (B) and where the present coastal highway will intersect with the bypass (E) indicating “Ruby Coast Scenic Route”.
- 10.6 **THAT** a sign should be erected at the new turnoff near Dominion Road (B) and where the present coastal highway (E) will intersect with the bypass indicating the new road names.
- 10.7 **THAT** Council supply all new numbers free of charge to the affected properties.

Lindsay Skinner
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