

Suggested Road Naming Guidelines Lane County, Oregon

Recently, many new road names became problematic for address and road name users. Developers have proposed road names that are identical or too similar to existing road names in Lane County. There have also been problems with road names containing road types, alpha/numeric, etc. This results in difficulties for many public agencies, private companies, the U.S. Postal Service, E9-1-1, residents, and the public at large.

Lane Council of Governments (LCOG) facilitated a meeting with local governments and the U.S. Postal Service to create guidelines to accommodate the needs of Planners, Addressing, Public Safety, and U.S. Postal Service staff when reviewing new road names and proposed road name changes. The guidelines apply to both public and private road names.

Generally, each jurisdiction involved in reviewing subdivision plats and proposed road name changes already has an existing review process. In addition to these existing review processes, it was concluded that it would be beneficial to have the U.S. Postal Service, E9-1-1, and LCOG review proposed road names. In an effort to reduce the amount of paper involved with this additional step, correspondence will be sent via e-mail. An e-mail group list has been created and can be found on the RIS network as *LCOG Roadnames. Another benefit of the group list is that it may help prohibit identical or too similar road names from being approved by two different entities simultaneously. Those who send proposed road names to the e-mail group list should give reply deadlines. Recipients should reply that the proposed road name is acceptable or unacceptable before the deadline.

Guidelines:

These guidelines do not conflict with any existing regulations within Lane County. Road names can be checked by using www.rlid.org. This site contains all road names within Lane County where building permits have been issued.

Do not accept:

- Road names without a valid road type;*
- Road names with post-directionals (ex: Woodlake Way South);
- Road names with pre-directionals contained within the *road name* field (instead of in the pre-direction field). Pre-directionals that are attached to another word in the road name (no space between words) are acceptable (ex: South Ridge Dr is not acceptable, Southridge Dr acceptable);
- Road names with punctuation (ex: St. Ives Pl, Be-ell Pl, or Hooton's Corners Rd);
- Road names with potentially confusing foreign names (ex: Soufreiere Ct);
- Road names that are alpha/numeric (ex: Bonners Lane 1);
- Road names that sound like existing road names (ex: Cortland/Portland);
- Road names that contain more than 20 characters (ex: Goodpasture Lakes Loop Rd);
- Road names that contain a road type within the road name (ex: Woodway Pl);*
- Road names that contain a sound-alike of a road type within the road name (ex: Brenelain Ave);*

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Do not accept (cont'd)

- Road names that are identical to an existing mailing or incorporated city;
- Road names that are in general confusing, or have unusual spellings (ex: Acres on Taylor Ave or Hodsdonsdale Ln);
- Road names that contain abbreviated MT (mount/mountain) or ST (saint) without another word following (ex: Shasta MT Rd not acceptable, MT Shasta Rd is acceptable). There will be no punctuation but it must contain a valid road type;
- Road names with TRL as a road type. "Trail" in the road name is acceptable with a valid road type (ex: Deer TRL not acceptable, Deer Trail Rd is acceptable).

Proposed road names that already exist in Lane County will be reviewed on a case-by-case basis. Because the Master Street Address Guide (MSAG) is maintained at a county-wide level, it would be less confusing to avoid duplication of road names in Lane County.

Additional guidelines:

Naming cul-de-sacs:

- A new road name is preferable
- For short cul-de-sacs which can be addressed between the lowest and highest addresses of the "root" road where it connects with the cul-de-sac, it is acceptable to use the same road name *and* type as the root road. Do not use a different road type. (ex: a cul-de-sac off of Teralee Ln should be named either Teralee Ln or an entirely different road name)

If you have any questions regarding these guidelines, please contact Carolyn Housdorf at (541) 682-6437 or chousdorf@lcoq.org.

*Valid road types are: Aly, Ave, Blvd, Cir, Ct, Dr, Hall, Hwy, Ln, Lp, Pike, Pkwy, Pl, Rd, St, Ter, and Way.