



# TOWN OF TRURO

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## POLICY MEMORANDUM #12

Date: November 15, 1994; Revised September 26, 2017; revised September 13, 2022

\*This policy was revised at the September 13, 2022 Select Board meeting solely to reflect the titles used in the Town Charter for the Town Manager and Select Board and to modify language to be gender neutral. No changes were made to the content of the Policy at that meeting.

Subject: **ROAD NAMING POLICY**

The Town of Truro Select Board hereby adopts the following policy and procedure for designation of official names for roads and ways within the Town of Truro under the jurisdiction of the municipality:

1. Requests or petitions must be endorsed by the majority of property owners on the road, street or way in question. Petitioners shall secure a certified list of property owners with frontage on the road, street or way in question, and submit said certified list of property owners with evidence of endorsement and approval of the proposed name to the Select Board with any petition for a change of road, street or way name.
2. Petitioners shall submit a petition on an approved form to the Select Board with the following supporting documents:
  - a. certified list or road, street or way property owners;
  - b. evidence of support and endorsement of the proposed new name by a majority of property owners on said certified list of property owners;
  - c. a letter of support from the Truro Chief of Police; and
  - d. a letter of support from the Board of Assessors, specifically stating that the proposed name is not already in use.
3. Upon receipt of a completed petition with all supporting documentation of compliance with the requirements of this policy, and prior to Town Meeting action on the petition to change the road name, the Office of the Town Manager shall notify all property owners on the road or way subject to the proposed name change that the matter will be considered at a specific Town Meeting, after which the Warrant with time and place, has been approved by the Select Board.
4. Upon Town Meeting approval of the new road, street or way name, the Office of the Town Manager will as soon as possible notify all property owners and residents on the road or way, the Truro Department of Public Works, the Truro Police Department, and E-911 system, as well as any public or private entity that requires accurate street listings for public safety purposes.

5. The petitioner(s) of the Road Name Petition shall pay a non-refundable fee of \$75.00 to the Town of Truro with the completed petition and supporting documentation prior to the Town of Truro approving the petition for processing to finance the administrative costs of the Town of Truro incurred in the Town Meeting and property owner notification processes.

This policy is subject to M.G.L. c. 85, s. 3:

*Section 3. When the name of any public way, place or section, or of any public park, is changed by the board or officer having jurisdiction thereof, if the name changed has been in use for twenty-five years or more, there shall be a right of appeal from such action to the department. Said appeal shall be taken within thirty days after such change, and shall be by petition of at least twenty-five inhabitants of the town in which such change has been made, requesting the reversal of such action. Notice of the filing of such petition shall forthwith be filed by the department in the office of the clerk of the town in which the change has been made, and upon the filing of such petition, a public hearing shall be given by said department, after such public notice as it shall determine, and unless the department shall approve of such change, the same shall be of no effect.*

In accordance with M.G.L. c. 85, s.3, in the event that the requisite number of signatures are obtained on a petition, any name change for a name in existence for over twenty-five years would be subject to the approval of MassDOT ("the department"), after a public hearing.

Following name change approval, the Department of Public Works will erect an appropriate street sign specifying the new name at or near each point where the road joins another road or way.

*Kristen Reed*

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Kristen Reed, Chair

*Robert Weinstein*

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Robert Weinstein, Vice Chair

*John K. Dundas*

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John Dundas, Clerk

*Susan Areson*

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Susan Areson

*Stephanie Rein*

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Select Board  
Town of Truro